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THE HINDU

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2022

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
Vol. 53 • No. 204
20 pages • ₹6.00

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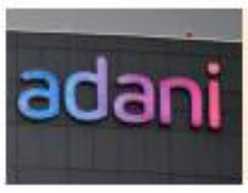
Greatly relished the job, says CJI Ramana in farewell speech
page 12

Mirwaiz Umar Farooq not allowed to leave for Friday sermon
page 13



Promoter firm obligated to transfer NDTV shares: Adani Group
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Nabi's Afghanistan meets Shanaka's Sri Lanka in Asia Cup opener
page 17

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NEARBY

Iron ore mining limit for three districts raised

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday raised the ceiling limit of iron ore mining for Ballari, Chitradurga, and Tumakuru districts in Karnataka.

SOUTH ▸ PAGE 9

'Glorification' of Savarkar in textbook opposed

BENGALURU

While attempts by the BJP government in Karnataka to "glorify" Hindutva ideologue Vinayak Damodar Savarkar has been in the news, it has now come to light that a lesson on him has been inserted in the revised high school curriculum by the Rohith Chakrathirtha-headed textbook revision committee.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 6

BBMP says 20,000 potholes filled

BENGALURU

Amid rising accidents caused allegedly due to bad roads in the city, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath claimed that 20,000 potholes have been filled so far from May. Mr. Giri Nath further said that the recent rain in the city had increased the number of potholes.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 2

PROPERTYPLUS ▸ PAGE 7

Ghulam Nabi Azad walks out of Congress blaming Rahul Gandhi

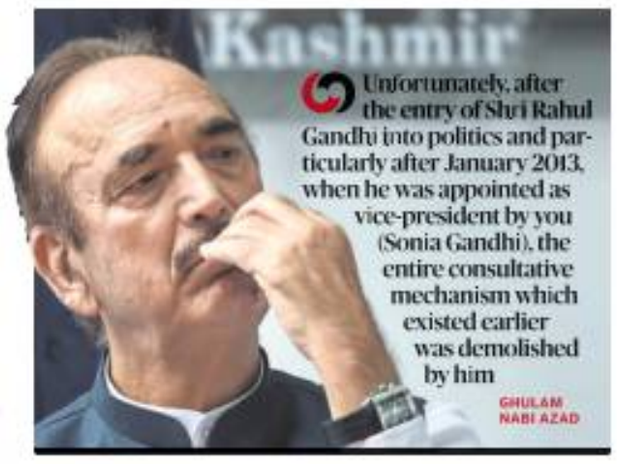
Sonia merely a figurehead, he says in letter

SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

Rahul Gandhi has demolished all the consultative mechanism in the Congress, and the "remote control" culture that damaged the United Progressive Alliance was brought into the party, said Congress veteran Ghulam Nabi Azad in his resignation letter on Friday that ended his nearly 50-year-old association with the party.

Launching a scathing attack on Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Azad said the Congress had been "comprehensively destroyed", adding that the party had reached this state because it wanted to "foist a non-serious individual on the party for the past eight years." In his resignation letter sent to Congress president Sonia Gandhi, Mr. Azad alleged that she was merely "a figurehead and all decisions were taken by Rahul Gandhi or his personal assistant and security guards."

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who is considered to be a front-runner in the party's presidential race, said Mr. Azad's resignation at a time when Ms. Gandhi was away for treatment in the U.S. was "inhuman and insensitive".


Kashmir
Unfortunately, after the entry of Shri Rahul Gandhi into politics and particularly after January 2013, when he was appointed as vice-president by you (Sonia Gandhi), the entire consultative mechanism which existed earlier was demolished by him
GHULAM NABI AZAD

'Will launch new party soon'

Veteran politician Ghulam Nabi Azad on Friday said he would launch a new party soon and that its first unit would be set up in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I am in no hurry as of now to launch a national party but keeping in mind that election is likely to be held in Jammu and Kashmir, I have decided to launch a unit there soon," Mr. Azad said.

The former J&K Chief Minister refused to divulge any further details on the formation of his new party.

Refusing to be dragged into any discussion over his resignation, Mr. Azad said, "I have thought about this decision for long and there is no going back." PTI

Congress general secretary in-charge of communication Jairam Ramesh said it was "most unfortunate and regrettable" that Mr. Azad chose to send this letter when the entire Congress was taking on the BJP government on the issues of price rise, social polarisation and political divisions through its *Bharat Jodo* Yatra and *Mehangai Par Halla Bol* rally.

A few other Congress leaders, who chose to be anonymous, linked Mr. Azad's 'letter bomb' to the coming Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir, in which he would participate by floating his regional party and could eventually tie up with the BJP.

Alleges BJP slant

Suggesting that Mr. Azad was getting close to the BJP for sometime now, Mr. Ramesh said whether it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tearful farewell for Mr. Azad in the Rajya Sabha, honouring him with a Padma Vibhushan or giving an extension to his Lutyen's bungalow, the signs were visible. "A man who has been treated with the greatest respect by the Congress leadership has betrayed it by his vicious personal attacks which reveals his true character. GNA's DNA has been modified." he tweeted.

In his letter, however, Mr. Azad cited insults and sidelining of seniors by Mr. Gandhi and his coterie as the reason for his departure. "...unfortunately after the entry of Shri Rahul Gandhi into politics and particularly after January 2013, when he was appointed as vice-president by you (Sonia Gandhi), the entire consultative mechanism which existed earlier was demolished by him," Mr. Azad said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

REACTIONS ▸ PAGE 12

Three-judge Bench to review SC verdict on poll promises

Court suggests an independent study

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday decided to reconsider a 2013 judgment, which held that promises in the election manifesto do not constitute a "corrupt practice" under the law.

A Bench led by the Chief Justice of India, N.V. Ramana, ordered a three-judge Bench to be set up to review the court's earlier position that such pre-poll promises made by political parties to entice voters do not fall within the ambit of Section 123 (corrupt practices) under the Representation of the People (RP) Act.

The S. Subramaniam Balaji judgment, delivered by a two-judge Bench, had observed that "although the law is obvious that the promises in the election manifesto cannot be construed as 'corrupt practice' under Section 123 of RP Act, the reality cannot be ruled out that distribution of freebies of any kind, undoubtedly, influences all people".

Eye on vote banks

On Friday, the Chief Justice said the three-judge Bench should consider whether an "enforceable" order can be passed to stop political parties in power from promising and distributing "irrational freebies", completely divorced from actual welfare schemes, using public money in order to merely "capture vote banks".

> Freebies may create a situation wherein the State government cannot provide basic amenities due to lack of funds and the State is pushed towards imminent bankruptcy
> SUPREME COURT

"Freebies may create a situation wherein the State government cannot provide basic amenities due to lack of funds and the State is pushed towards imminent bankruptcy," the court said.

The court said the three-judge Bench should also deliberate if an expert body can be formed to independently study and make recommendations against the distribution of largesse at the cost of the national economy and public welfare.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

FIFA lifts ban on Indian football body

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

World football governing body FIFA on Friday lifted the ban imposed on the All India Football Federation (AIFF) after the Supreme Court terminated the mandate of the Committee of Administrators, clearing the decks for India to host the women's U-17 World Cup in October.

FIFA had suspended the AIFF for "undue influence from third parties." The AIFF welcomed the move.

FULL REPORT ▸ PAGE 17

SC relief for U.P. CM in hate speech case

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed a petition against a decision of the Allahabad High Court which upheld the Uttar Pradesh government's refusal to grant sanction for prosecuting Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in a 2007 hate speech case. A Bench of CJI N.V. Ramana, Justices Hima Kohli and C.T. Ravikumar said the probe into the FIR had culminated in a closure report in 2017.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

Consider applications on holding religious events at Idgah maidan: HC

Division Bench modifies interim order of single judge on use of the ground

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka on Friday permitted the State government to consider and pass appropriate orders on the applications received by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban, seeking the use of the Idgah maidan, Chamarajpet, for holding various religious and cultural activities for a limited period from August 31, 2022.

The interim order was passed on an appeal filed by the State government questioning the August 25 interim order passed by a single judge, which had restricted the State government and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to using Idgah maidan land only for the specified purposes.

"The Indian society comprises religious, linguistic, regional or sectional diversities. The Constitution of India itself fosters brotherhood amongst various sections of Society. The principle of religious toleration is the characteristic of Indian civilization. We therefore, at this stage, in the peculiar facts of the case, modify the interim order of August 25, 2022," the Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice S. Vishwajith Shetty, observed in the interim order on the Government's appeal.

The Division Bench clarified that the rest of the directions contained in the single judge's August 25 interim order remain unaltered, while adjourning further hearing on the government's appeal till September 12. Earlier, State Advocate-General Prabhuling K. Navadgi had contended that there is a dispute with regard to title of the land in question and the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore City, has received as many as five applications from various organisations seeking permission to use the land in question on August 31, for a limited period for the purpose of holding religious and cultural activities. The government requested the division bench to allow it to appropriate decision on the applications as the land vests with the State government.

The A-G disputed the claim of the Karnataka State Board of Auqaf, which had relied on a 1965 notification, to claim that the land is a wakf property.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 5

Facing disqualification, Soren meets coalition MLAs twice

As many as 49 ruling alliance MLAs repose faith in CM

AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

Amid speculation of his disqualification as MLA over a mining lease contract, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Friday met ruling alliance legislators twice at his official residence, apparently to chalk out a future strategy and send out a message of their unity.

Uncertainty over Mr. Soren's government arose after the Election Commission (EC) reportedly sent a report recommending his disqualification over allegations that he allocated a mining lease to himself while holding the portfolio of Mines in 2021. The Governor had forwarded a complaint in this regard by BJP MLAs to the EC.

In the 81-member Jharkhand Assembly, the Soren-led ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) has 30 MLAs. Among its allies, the Congress has 18, while Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) and Nationalist Congress Party have one each. The BJP has 26 MLAs while alliance partner All Jharkhand Students Union has two, with support from two other legislators. The magic number to form the government in the State is 41.

As many as 49 ruling alliance MLAs attended the meeting at Mr. Soren's official residence and asserted their support for the Chief Minister. "Let the Governor tell us about the recommendation made by the EC and we'll march to Raj Bhavan in numbers more than what is expected by the media and the Opposition BJP," said State Congress president Rajesh Thakur.

Taking stock: Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren chairing a meeting of legislators in Ranchi on Friday. • PTI

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

After SC rap, Commissioner of BDA shifted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government transferred Rajesh Gowda from the post of Commissioner, Bangalore Development Authority, and appointed Kumar Naik G. in his place.

This comes after the Supreme Court reprimanded Mr. Gowda and his subordinates for illegally allotting alternative sites in developed layouts. The court had directed the State government to transfer the erring officials from BDA and barred Mr. Gowda from signing important documents and taking decisions.

A Bench of Justices S. Abdul Nazeer and Sanjiv Khanna, while hearing a case pertaining to Shivaram Karanth Layout, observed that Mr. Gowda did not show respect to Supreme Court orders and should be immediately shifted.

RELATED REPORT ▸ PAGE 3

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The day you don't feel the need to apologise.
The day you begin a love story with yourself.
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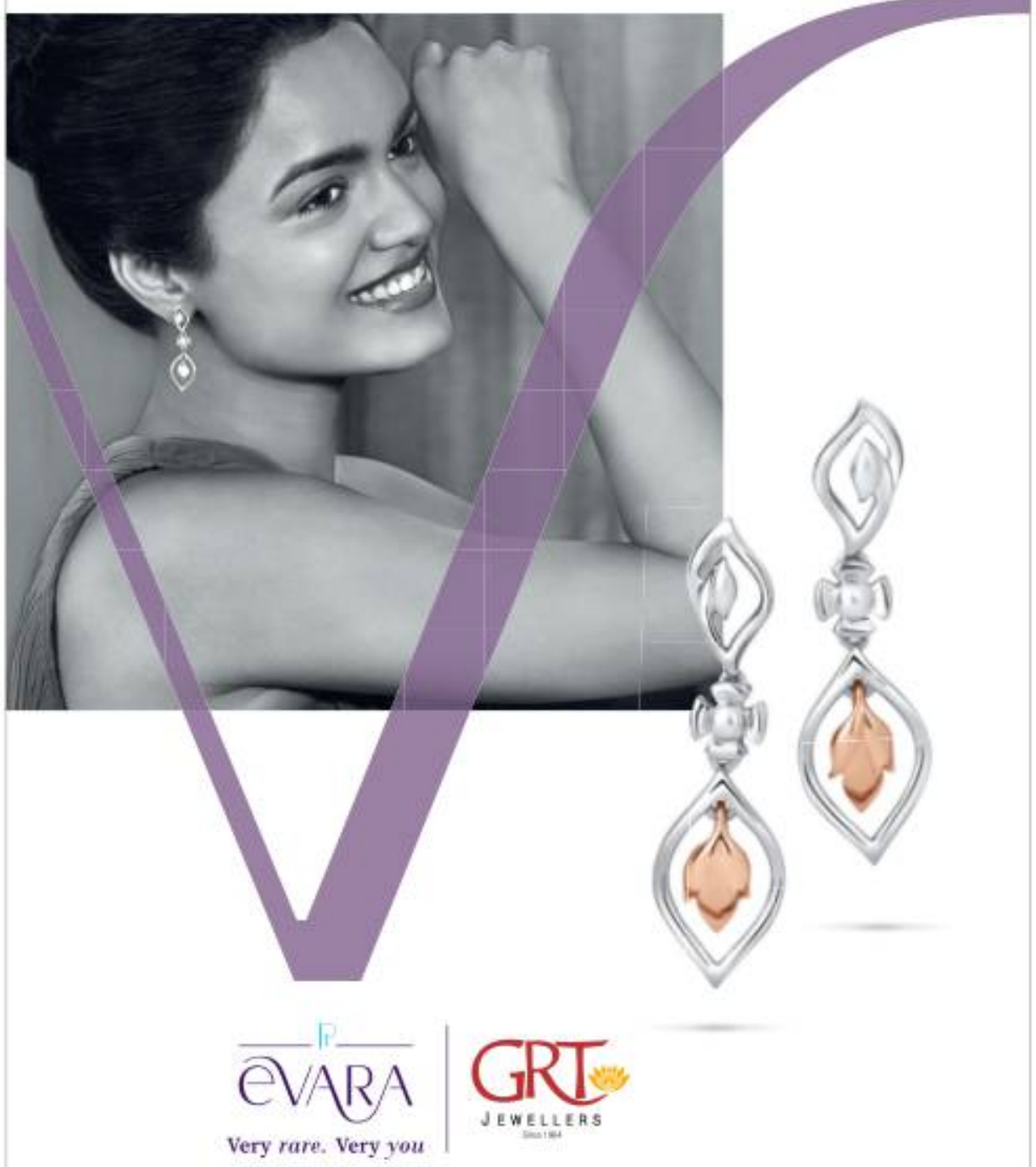

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GETTY IMAGES

The subtle allure of Medvedev's 'sloppy' hard-court genius

The 6'6" Russian has a deceptive, unconventional game — he is also that rare player who is simultaneously a great server, mover and returner. Having reached the final at four of the last six hard-court Majors, he will be the man to beat at the US Open

> I hope to live some great moments, starting with the US Open. Will not having played at Wimbledon help me for the US Open and the rest of the year? I really hope so
>
> DANIIL MEDVEDEV

> He has a very weird game. It's very sloppy, but a good sloppy. He's just very uncomfortable to play against. He can make you miss without understanding why you missed
>
> STEFANOS TSITSIPAS

N. SUDARSHAN

September 12, 2021 could have marked the crowning glory of Novak Djokovic's career. At the US Open, he was one match away from achieving men's tennis' first Grand Slam – winning all four Majors in a year – since Rod Laver managed the feat in 1969. With a win, he would have also become the greatest men's player in history, statistically, by capturing a record-breaking 21st Major. Sporting immortality beckoned.

Instead, what one saw was a watershed moment for men's tennis, a blindingly devastating performance from Daniil Medvedev that dented Djokovic's hitherto inhuman standards, one that earned the Russian his first Major trophy.

The significance of the win wasn't lost. This was the first time a young player had felled one of the 'Big 3' in a Slam final. A passing of the baton it didn't prove to be, with Rafael Nadal and Djokovic going on to win the subsequent three Majors. But never did anyone think that a man significantly younger – Medvedev was 25 then, Djokovic 34 – would finally defeat the old guard at the top of their games, when the stakes were that high.

So far and deep have the tremors from that earthquake of a performance extended that Medvedev, the reigning World No.1, despite a below-par season, will still be among the favourites when the 2022 edition kicks off on Monday.

A long time coming

To the casual eye, that 2021 show may seem like a one-off. But a closer look will reveal that Medvedev was building up for it. For a good two years leading in, he was arguably the best hard-court player in the world, particularly ruthless in the period starting from the US Open swing until the Australian Open.

In 2019 – his coming out year – he was all but untouchable over the course of 10 weeks between late July and early October, winning three titles (Cincinnati, St. Petersburg, Shanghai), making three finals (Citi Open, Canada, US Open) and amassing a 29-3 record to reach a new career high of World No. 4.

In 2020, after getting to the semifinals in New York, he ended the season with the Paris Masters and ATP World Tour Finals titles. The second of these was particularly significant, an irresistible run to the trophy that featured wins over the then ATP top-three – Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and

> There are no holes in his game. Both forehand and backhand are very solid. Just running forehand, forehand from mid-court, something that probably wasn't his forte in the past, now he has improved a lot. It's just he always makes you play [another shot]
>
> NOVAK DJOKOVIC

Dominic Thiem.

The 26-year-old backed this up by leading Russia to the title in the 2021 ATP Cup and making the Australian Open final. And he ended 2021 in rousing fashion, racking up a 25-4 record starting from the Canada Masters, including two titles and two finals, the acme being the historic triumph at Flushing Meadows.

"There are no holes in his game," Djokovic would observe after losing the final. "I mean, both forehand and backhand are very solid. Just running forehand, forehand from mid-court, something that probably wasn't his forte in the past, now he has improved a lot. It's just he always makes you play [another shot]."

When Medvedev first arrived, there was no inkling of all the success to follow. But the man defies convention. Reed-thin, loose-limbed, gangly and with slightly unkempt hair, he gives the impression of someone who has come to scrap. Shorn of elegant athleticism, his movement resembles a series of stumbles. His technique, swing-path and follow-through all need careful study because it's easy to misread his game.

Don't judge a book...

So much so that in early 2017, when Medvedev played at the Chennai Open, where he would reach his first Tour-level final, this correspondent – in hindsight erroneously – concluded during a first-round match that he appeared too bored and uninterested to be on court.

"He has a very weird game. It's very sloppy, but a good sloppy," Stefanos Tsitsipas said in 2019. "I don't mean this in a bad way. He's just very uncomfortable to play against. He can make you miss without understanding why you missed."

He still gives out the same deceptive vibes, but therein lies a hard-court genius. For players of his height – 6'6" – most of the game is about the serve and the serve+1 shot. Lack of movement is their bane.

But Medvedev is that rare player who is simultaneously a great server, mover and returner. His octopus-like limbs mean that he can land serves from the top of Eiffel Tower and, with a superb deep-court defence, pluck balls from the crowd. If Djokovic is elastic, Medvedev is a noodle.

He also hits among the flattest balls on tour, cuts off angles by moving diagonally and has a high contact point which makes it seem like he is not really striking the ball but smothering it.

"He is a total counter-puncher, you don't really see so many true, true counter-punchers in today's game," World No. 28 Reilly Opelka, who is five inches taller than Medvedev, said. "He's holding serve easy every time, and then he's in almost every return game.

"Simple math: the other guy's service games are really long, really tough, he's making a million balls. And then his service games are pretty short and to the point. If the guy catches a few returns, he has no problem running and scrapping."

For two-and-a-half sets against Nadal in the 2022 Australian Open final, this game of his was in full flow, before the Spaniard staged a comeback for the ages. But that did not stop Medvedev from becoming World No. 1 in February, the first player other than Djokovic, Roger Federer, Nadal and Andy Murray to hold the top spot since Andy Roddick on February 1, 2004.

Bittersweet

The period since then, though, has been bittersweet. Medvedev lost the top spot three weeks after earning it and regained it only in mid-June. He missed several French Open tune-up events to recover from a hernia procedure and was unfortunately barred from competing at Wimbledon because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. It was not until the ATP 250 in Los Cabos, Mexico, earlier this month that he secured his first title of the year and the run to the Cincinnati semifinals was his first at a Masters this season.

"Over the past 12 months, a lot has happened," Medvedev wrote in *Eurosport* recently. "The Australian Open, the world No. 1 spot, my injury this spring, wins, losses... a player's life does not exist without all these things, [and] I take it all as experience. If we go into the details, sure, we can find positives and negatives. But, when I look back, I tell myself that it's experience, it's life. All this made me progress as a human being."

US Open 2022 can potentially herald further progress for Medvedev, the player. With Djokovic missing the tournament over his Covid vaccination status and Nadal undercooked in his preparation, Medvedev, who has reached the final at four of the last six hard-court Majors, is the man to beat. He may not be in rich form, but there is no reason why he cannot rise again. On-court deception, after all, is his character trait.

"I hope to live some great moments, starting with the US Open," he wrote. "Will not having played at Wimbledon help me for the US Open and the rest of the year? I really hope so. It allowed me to do a big three-week preparation for the US Open and the end of the season. Physically and mentally, I hope to be 100% until the end of the year."

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Daniil Medvedev	26	6,885	19
2	Alexander Zverev	25	5,760	19
3	Rafael Nadal	36	5,630	9
4	Carlos Alcaraz	19	5,100	18
5	Stefanos Tsitsipas	24	4,890	22
6	Novak Djokovic	35	4,770	11
7	Casper Ruud	23	4,695	23
8	Felix Auger-Aliassime	22	3,625	24
9	Cameron Norrie	26	3,415	24
10	Hubert Hurkacz	25	3,355	22
11	Andrey Rublev	24	3,120	24
12	Taylor Fritz	24	3,090	23
13	Jannik Sinner	21	3,020	21
14	Pablo Carreno Busta	31	2,375	24
15	Matteo Berrettini	26	2,360	18

Top Indians ▸

Ramkumar Ramanathan
Rank 241 ▼ 1 spot

Prajnesh Gunneswaran
Rank 321 ▲ 3 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Iga Swiatek	21	8,605	17
2	Anett Kontaveit	26	4,580	21
3	Maria Sakkari	27	4,190	21
4	Paula Badosa	24	3,980	24
5	Ons Jabeur	27	3,920	19
6	Aryna Sabalenka	24	3,470	20
7	Simona Halep	30	3,255	19
8	Jessica Pegula	28	3,201	17
9	Garbine Muguruza	28	2,886	19
10	Daria Kasatkina	25	2,795	21
11	Emma Raducanu	19	2,756	22
12	Coco Gauff	18	2,687	17
13	Belinda Bencic	25	2,635	20
14	Leylah Fernandez	19	2,540	17
15	Beatriz Haddad Maia	26	2,317	36

Top Indians ▸

Ankita Raina
Rank 358 ▼ 1 spot

Karman Thandi
Rank 362 ▲ 1 spot

F1 Drivers' standings

#	DRIVER	TEAM	POINTS	WINS
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull Racing	258	8
2	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	178	1
3	Sergio Perez	Red Bull Racing	173	1
4	George Russell	Mercedes	158	0
5	Carlos Sainz	Ferrari	156	1
6	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	146	0
7	Lando Norris	McLaren	76	0
8	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	58	0
9	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo	46	0
10	Fernando Alonso	Alpine	41	0
11	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	22	0
12	Daniel Ricciardo	McLaren	19	0
13	Pierre Gasly	AlphaTauri	16	0
14	Sebastian Vettel	Aston Martin	16	0
15	Mick Schumacher	Haas	12	0
16	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri	11	0
17	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo	5	0
18	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	4	0
19	Alex Albon	Williams	3	0
20	Nicholas Latifi	Williams	0	0
21	Nico Hulkenberg	Aston Martin	0	0

Max Verstappen

Charles Leclerc

F1 Constructors' standings

POS	TEAM	POINTS	WINS	PODIUMS
1	Red Bull	431	9	16
2	Ferrari	334	4	11
3	Mercedes	304	0	11
4	Alpine	99	0	0
5	McLaren	95	0	1
6	Alfa Romeo	51	0	0
7	Haas	34	0	0
8	AlphaTauri	27	0	0
9	Aston Martin	20	0	0
10	Williams	3	0	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	PLAYER	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Viktor Axelsen	121,606	37
2	Kento Momota	112,704	26
3	Anders Antonsen	98,300	34
4	Chou Tien Chen	93,776	38
5	Lee Zii Jia	91,578	39
6	Anthony Sinisuka Ginting	89,279	34
7	Jonatan Christie	82,412	34
8	Loh Kean Yew	79,584	29
9	Chen Long	76,830	14
10	Lakshya Sen	75,874	35
11	Ng Ka Long Angus	72,007	34
12	Rasmus Gemke	70,551	33
13	K. Srikanth	68,731	41
14	Kanta Tsuneyama	66,638	28
15	Lee Cheuk Yiu	66,061	34

Top Indians ▸

Lakshya Sen
Rank 10

K. Srikanth
Rank 13

Badminton Women's ranking

#	PLAYER	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Akane Yamaguchi	111,013	34
2	Tai Tzu Ying	110,845	25
3	An Se Young	104,401	41
4	Chen Yu Fei	103,606	26
5	Carolina Marin	100,380	24
6	Nozomi Okuhara	95,960	23
7	P.V. Sindhu	95,518	39
8	Ratchanok Intanon	89,349	36
9	He Bing Jiao	81,064	31
10	Pornpawee Chochuwong	78,265	41
11	Wang Zhi Yi	75,238	28
12	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	70,294	47
13	Michelle Li	70,130	38
14	Sayaka Takahashi	66,573	29
15	Mia Blichfeldt	61,479	24

Top Indians ▸

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 7

Saina Nehwal
Rank 33

Test Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Joe Root	900	923
2	Marnus Labuschagne	885	936
3	Babar Azam	879	879
4	Steve Smith	848	947
5	Rishabh Pant	801	801
6	Kane Williamson	786	919
7	Usman Khawaja	766	779
8	Dimuth Karunaratne	748	782
9	Rohit Sharma	746	813
10	Jonny Bairstow	716	772

Test Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Pat Cummins	891	914
2	R. Ashwin	842	904
3	Kagiso Rabada	836	902
4	Shaheen Afridi	828	836
5	Jasprit Bumrah	828	835
6	James Anderson	802	903
7	Kyle Jamieson	788	836
8	Kemar Roach	756	780
9	Neil Wagner	747	859
10	Mitchell Starc	739	806

ODI Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	890	898
2	R. van der Dussen	789	796
3	Quinton de Kock	784	813
4	Imam-ul-Haq	779	815
5	Virat Kohli	744	911
6	Rohit Sharma	740	885
7	David Warner	737	880
8	Jonny Bairstow	732	796
9	Ross Taylor	722	841
10	Aaron Finch	715	798

ODI Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Trent Boult	720	770
2	Josh Hazlewood	679	733
3	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	676	712
4	Jasprit Bumrah	662	841
5	Shaheen Afridi	661	688
6	Mohammad Nabi	657	657
7	Mehedi Hasan	655	725
8	Rashid Khan	651	806
9	Matt Henry	644	691
10	Mustafizur Rahman	640	695

T20I Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	818	896
2	Suryakumar Yadav	805	816
3	Mohammad Rizwan	794	798
4	Aiden Markram	792	796
5	Dawid Malan	731	915
6	Aaron Finch	716	900
7	Muhammad Waseem	703	703
8	Devon Conway	683	784
9	Pathum Nissanka	661	689
10	Reeza Hendricks	628	647

T20I Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Josh Hazlewood	792	806
2	Tabraiz Shamsi	716	821
3	Adil Rashid	702	746
4	Adam Zampa	698	743
5	Rashid Khan	679	816
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	668	797
7	Akeal Hosein	665	681
8	Mitchell Santner	651	731
9	Maheesh Theekshana	647	647
10	Bhuvneshwar Kumar	644	665

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Actual shot of duplex villaments with private garden and pool

Actual shot of triplex villaments with private terrace and rooftop pool

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'BBMP draft voters' list politically motivated'

It is unscientific and unjust: Congress

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A day after the draft voters' list for the civic elections was published by the State Election Commission and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), the Opposition Congress said that the list exposes the "unscientific, politically motivated, and unjust" ward formation by the BJP government.

On Thursday, BBMP published the draft voters' list for 243 wards of the city on its website. • FILE PHOTO

On Thursday, BBMP published the draft voters' list for the 243 wards of the city on the BBMP website, wherein citizens can review their details and make any corrections if required.

Krishna Byre Gowda, Congress MLA of Byatarayanapura, said on Friday, "The latest BBMP ward voters' list exposes the unscientific, politically motivated, and unjust ward formation by the BJP government. Some wards have as few as 18,600 voters. Others, like Thanisandra in our constituency, have 51,000 voters."

He further alleged that the ruling BJP party has manipulated the list for their political agenda. "Such gross inequality is an injustice to many constituencies. It shows that the manipulation by BJP suits only their political agenda," he added.

The BBMP has fixed the deadline for filing objections to September 2.

According to the draft list, there are a total of 79,08,394 voters in 243 wards in the city and there are 41,09,496 male, 37,97,497 female and 1,401 other voters.

Amid accidents due to bad roads, BBMP says 20,000 potholes filled

Recent rains have resulted in more number of potholes: Chief Commissioner

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Amid rising accidents caused allegedly due to bad roads in the city, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath claimed that 20,000 potholes have been filled so far from May.

Potholes on Uttarahalli-Kengeri Road in Bengaluru. • FILE PHOTO

Mr. Giri Nath further said that the recent rain in the city has increased the number of potholes. "Due to the rain, it is difficult to fill the potholes. Hence, once it stops raining, we will start filling potholes. I conducted a meeting yesterday and instructed officials to use 40 loads of cold mix asphalt since preparing hot mix is not possible now due to the rainy weather," he said on Friday.

Earlier too, during coordination meetings with various agencies, Mr. Giri Nath had directed the BBMP Road Department officials to use this solution. A video doing rounds on social media went viral on Friday of a woman falling on the road in Kasturinagar Outer Ring Road flyover after her two-wheeler hits a pothole. The video was uploaded by a Twitter user and the incident reportedly happened on August 19.

After the video went viral, the BBMP filled the pothole, according to officials.

The civic chief said ₹30 lakh has been provided to each BBMP ward to fill the potholes apart from ₹10 crore being earmarked in the civic budget. "I have instructed all the officials to use the funds to fill the potholes and complete the work soon," he added.

Single-use plastic: BBMP to cancel licence

Despite single-use plastic (SUP) being banned, the city is reporting the use of the SUP, and now the BBMP has decided to cancel the trade licence of the manufacturers in the city.

Mr. Tushar Giri Nath said, "I have told officials to continue the raids on SUP manufacturers and if they don't stop manufacturing SUP, I have instructed the zonal officials to cancel their trade licence."

Ganesha festival: 63 single-windows

After the Karnataka government on Tuesday issued directions to city corporations and urban local bodies to set up a single-window agency comprising officials of Revenue, Police, Energy, Fire and Emergency Services, and PWD Departments for granting permission to organisers for the public installation of Ganesha idols, the BBMP has set up 63 single window subdivisions in the city.

The festival falls on Wednesday (August 31) and will be celebrated with fervour in the State and other parts of the country, with fewer restrictions in place after two years of the pandemic.

The BBMP will also set up 421 mobile tanks and 37 temporary Kalyani's across the city, the BBMP commissioner said. The city usually sees over 1.2 lakh idols being immersed in its tanks every year.

Police raid residences of 209 rowdy-sheeters

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The East Division police carried out raids on the residences of 209 rowdy-sheeters in their division simultaneously on Friday. This comes days after the West Division carried out a similar raid in their division. Police sources said that rowdy parades were being conducted in all divisions ahead of Ganesha festival, during which many rowdy-sheeters involve themselves in installing idols and often lead to altercations.

Six arrested

The East Division police arrested six rowdy-sheeters who despite having warrants pending against them were not appearing before the court in cases pending against them. The police collected the address and phone numbers of all rowdy-sheeters and let them go.

Two gangs of rowdy-sheeters assault each other, file plaints

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Two gangs of rowdy-sheeters assaulted each other and then filed a complaint and counter-complaint at Govindarajnagar police station.

Praveen, 30, a resident of Agrahara Dasarahalli, was with his friend Chandru drinking tea around 8.30 p.m. when three men on a bike - identified as Prajwal, Prashanth and Kiran - attacked them with iron rods and a dagger over an old rivalry. Praveen and Chandru snatched the weapons and attacked Prajwal and gang, forcing them to flee, the police said.

Arrested

Both gangs filed complaints with the police accusing the other of assault. While Praveen has a case in Basaveshwaranagar, Prajwal has two cases pending in Madanayakanahalli and Doddaballapur, and Prashanth has a case pending in Madanayakanahalli Police station, police sources said. All four have been arrested.

Approach HC, SC tells petitioners in civic body elections case

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked petitioners challenging the delimitation of wards for elections to Bengaluru's civic body, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), to approach the Karnataka High Court.

A Bench of Justices S. Abdul Nazeer and J.K. Maheshwari said it would be appropriate for the High Court to consider their pleas about the delimitation exercise.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, for a petitioner, said the current delimitation would favour the ruling party in the State. Senior advocate Meenakshi Arora, appearing for a respondent, said the delimitation work should not stall the elections and a schedule ought to be announced.

The Supreme Court had paved the way for the BBMP elections two years after its previous term came to an end.

The elections are crucial and is seen by many as a precursor to the Karnataka Assembly polls due in 2023.

MLAs call the shots

Critics argue that the elections have been postponed deliberately by the ruling BJP to fortify the positions of its MLAs, who have been calling the shots in Bengaluru in the absence of a civic body. Bengaluru contributes 12.5% of the seats in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and over 60% of the State's revenue annually.

The Karnataka government had in May informed the apex court that the delimitation exercise was in its "final stage" and a "dedicated commission" was in the process of determining the reservation to be provided for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the elections.

The court had recorded the undertaking and further directed the Karnataka State Election Commission (SEC) "to commence its preparatory exercise for conducting the elections to install the newly elected body". It had ordered the preparatory exercise to begin within one week of the notification of delimitation of wards or determination of OBC reservation, whichever of the two came later.

"Needless to observe, once the State Election Commission initiates the process for conduct of elections, it must take the same to its logical end in accordance with law as expeditiously as possible," the court had observed in the order.

M.P. civic polls

In a separate case concerning delay in elections to over 23,000 local bodies in Madhya Pradesh, the apex court had said such lapse "borders on the breakdown of the rule of law".

The court had declared that State Election Commissions across the country cannot skip their constitutional obligation to conduct polls to local bodies every five years.

Rakuten opens office, potential for 3,000 jobs

It is a Tokyo-based company

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Rakuten India, a global product and innovation centre for Tokyo-based Rakuten Group that focuses on electronic commerce and online retailing, has opened an office in Bengaluru to grow its customer base in India.

- Rakuten-Crimson House is expected to enhance the company's capability for deep-tech innovation and R&D in e-commerce, fintech, content and entertainment.

Rakuten's new office is situated near Cubbon Park. The 20-storey building, Rakuten-Crimson House, has office space of three lakh sq.ft. with a capacity to accommodate over 3,000 persons.

The office is expected to enhance the company's capability for deep-tech innovation and Research and Development in e-commerce, fintech, content and entertainment, as well as AI in computer vision, speech, and natural language processing (NLP).

"India is and has been central to our growth strategy. Our new R&D centre will build on the high value-added engagements that Rakuten has been delivering from India in deep tech and product innovation," said Yasufumi Hirai, CIO, CISO, Group Executive Vice-President of Rakuten Group, Inc.

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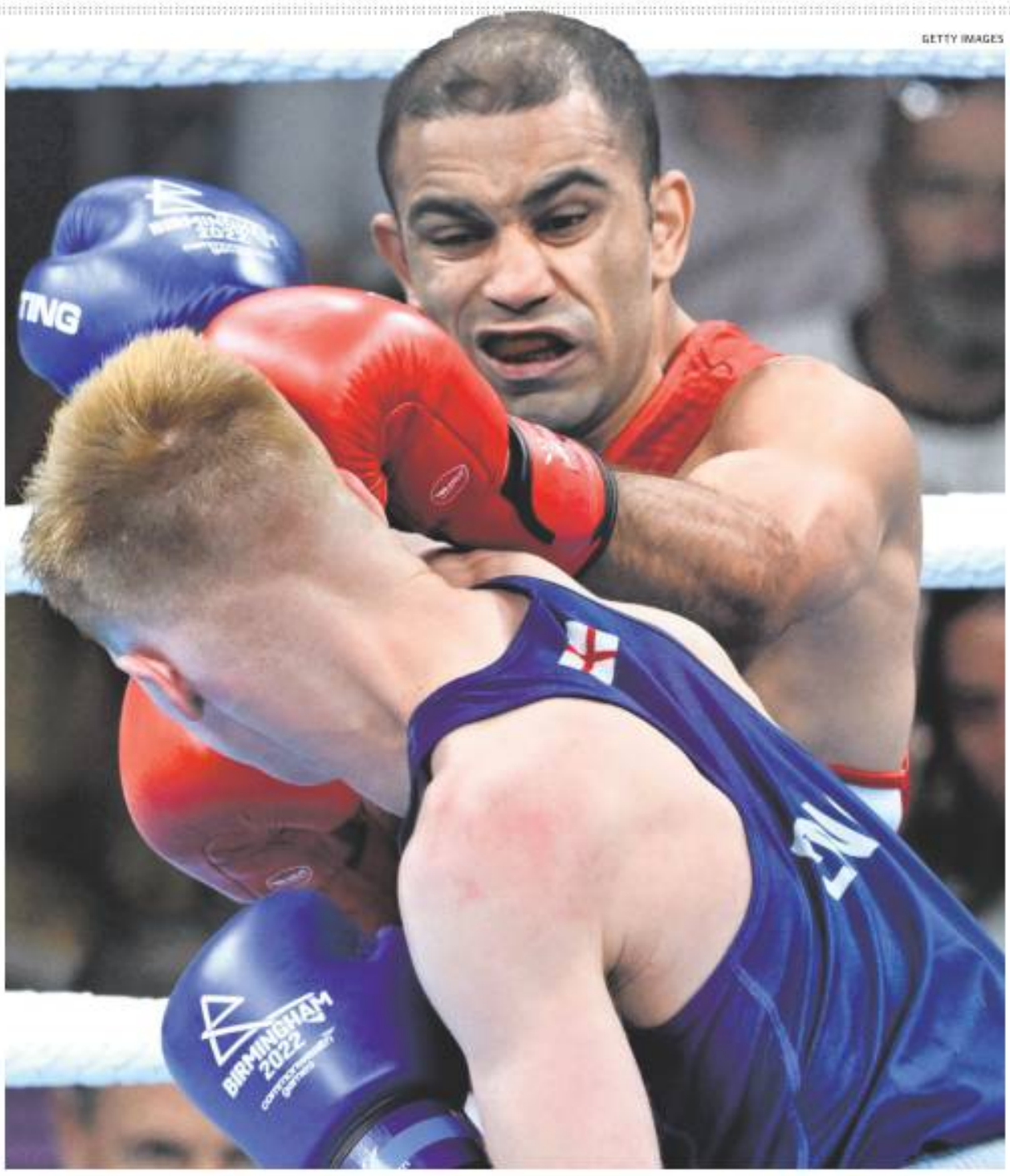

The resurgence of Amit Panghal

The 26-year-old boxer had established himself as a world beater before suffering a heartbreaking loss at the Tokyo Olympics. But his inherent fighting spirit and never-say-die attitude have helped him bounce back in style on the big stage

Y.B. SARANGI

When Amit Panghal flashed his signature salute and his endearing smile after taming English boxer Kiaran MacDonald in the men's 51kg final to win the long-cherished Commonwealth Games title in Birmingham, he redeemed his hard-earned reputation – which was built over several years but was soiled in six minutes in Tokyo about a year ago.

Ahead of the Tokyo Games, Amit had achieved something as astounding as entering the Olympics as the World No. 1 and top seed. Having claimed the honour of being the first Indian male boxer to bag a World Championships silver medal, an Asian Games gold, an Asian Championships gold and a Commonwealth Games silver as well as a few top titles, Amit had done everything he could do to emerge as the strongest medal prospect among the nine Indian boxers who had made the cut for the pandemic-affected Olympics.

Shock result

Amit's loss, after a first-round bye, to Rio Olympics silver medallist Yuberjen Martinez in the round of 16 was shocking not only for the top seed – who led after the first three minutes of his Games debut but eventually lost 4-1 – but also for the rest of India. It was hard to digest.

> **We started from the basics when we began. He trained at the village ground, swam in the canal and ran on the sand ... [After the Olympics] people said Amit was finished. But it was his dedication that brought him back to the sport**
>
> **ANIL DHANKAR,** Coach

Even today, a note of disappointment is clear in the voice of C.A. Kuttappa, who was the head coach of the Indian men's boxing squad, when he revisits that forgettable episode of 2021.

Remembering how Amit oozed confidence in the build-up camp in Italy, Kuttappa says, "Amit used to say, 'Sir, *mera toh pucca* medal *hai. Main jeet ke dikhaoonga* (I will medal for sure. I will win one).' He had boxed with everyone who was there in the Olympics. He knew about every rival's game and knew how to tackle each of them. He was well prepared."

> **When Amit returned to the [national] camp, I did not see him doing anything different, whether it was his training or anything else. There was nothing to suggest that he was morally down. There was no negative thought, no hopelessness**
>
> **C.A. KUTTAPPA,** Coach in the national camp

Rejecting the criticism that over-exposure to the aggressive Martinez during sparring sessions and a lack of endurance had led to the then World No. 1's exit, Kuttappa said Amit's recovery [after training] was not proper. Besides, the pressure of expectation on him was huge.

"There was criticism that Amit did more sparring with the Colombian, but we don't accept that because the more training you do with a rival the more you know about his game. There are no surprises as you become familiar with his style.

"People forgot Amit's previous performances and said he did not have stamina and did not practise well. That was really sad."

Whatever be the reason, it was a massive setback for Amit, who switched himself off for a few months and relied on his inner circle to tide over the low phase.

Coach Anil Dhankar, who taught Amit the fundamentals of boxing, and a senior Army officer, who mentored him, were the persons apart from his family who stood by the champion boxer.

"People said Amit was finished. But it was his dedication that brought him back to the sport," said Dhankar.

"We started from the basics when we began. He trained at the village ground, swam in the canal and ran on the sand.

"We had a lot of discussions on the psychological side of the sport. He is an Army man and his superior in the Army provided a lot of support during this period," said Dhankar.

Having watched Amit closely from the time he joined the Indian Army, his superior provided the much-needed support at the time of crisis.

Support system

"Mainly, I gave him mental support. I was the person who processed his papers when he joined the Army in 2017. He is in my regiment," said the senior Army officer, requesting anonymity.

"He was upset after getting out of the Olympics. The effort involved speaking to his parents, coaches, brother [Ajay, a former amateur boxer who is also in the Army]. It's like handling a 12th standard student who is not scoring well. You have to speak to his school principal, class teacher, tuition teacher, parents and friends, the whole circle."

The effort from his senior officer boosted Amit's morale.

"I reminded Amit of the good times – how he defeated the Rio Olympics gold medallist [Hasanboy Dusmatov], the big medals he won, how he was the flag-bearer of Indian boxing. This had a positive impact on him.

"He has been maintaining his weight for about five years to remain in the lowest weight category. That's a big challenge with the increase in age. It was also a big morale booster for him. I told him, 'You are the only Army boxer who has done so well. You can change the colour of your Commonwealth Games medal'. And he did it," said the Army officer.

When Amit rejoined the national camp in Patiala towards the end of 2021, the scar of Tokyo was not visible to others.

"When Amit returned to the camp, I did not see him doing anything different, whether it was his training or anything else," said Kuttappa, who continued to serve as a coach in the national camp. "There was nothing to suggest that he was morally down. There was no negative thought, no hopelessness. His body language was the same as before. He was always funny. We made him understand that it's a lesson for him. We told him, 'It was your first Olympics, so no problems. Major competitions will come, you need to perform well there.'"

Amit did perform well at the Commonwealth Games, the first major competition post Olympics.

Kuttappa was happy to see the southpaw's changes and mature handling of his opponents, especially those who box like street-fighters, inside the ring.

Changing it up

"There are some changes in Amit's game. He used to land his cross punches with his right, but this time he landed the right straight. I told him not to box in medium and close range. I asked him to maintain a long range and go for scoring punches. He did that really well. He even boxed well in close and medium ranges.

"I was most impressed with his performance in the final. After the 2018 Asian Games, where he beat the Olympic gold medallist, I saw Amit boxing so well. He used his one-two combination and straight rights more to maintain a long range," said Kuttappa.

For Lalit Prasad, a national coach who saw Amit in action in Birmingham, the 26-year-old proved his class.

"Amit worked hard on his strength and endurance after the Olympics. Of course, his tactical game was always good. He was motivated to prove himself again.

"In the Commonwealth Games, he used his experience as he boxed well while taking care to stay safe. He upgraded the colour of his medal from silver to gold, and that's the hallmark of a great boxer," said Lalit.

Amit, who overcame a doping sanction (due to his 'ignorance' early in his career) to establish himself as a world beater, has again underscored his inherent fighting abilities and never-say-die attitude by leaping over the Olympics disappointment and reviving his career in style.

> **Amit worked hard on his strength and endurance after the Olympics. Of course, his tactical game was always good... He upgraded the colour of his [CWG] medal from silver to gold, and that's the hallmark of a great boxer**
>
> **LALIT PRASAD,** National coach

Having seen his dear student get back into his groove, Dhankar looks at the Tokyo episode as a blessing in disguise. "The setback has made Amit mature. His self-confidence is up and it will help him in future," says Dhankar, with a sense of optimism.

Perhaps Amit has imbibed the positivity from his guru to bring bigger boxing laurels. The whole country will be elated if it can see the champion boxer flashing his signature salute and endearing smile time and again in elite competitions.

The Panghal file

From: Mayna, Rohtak, Haryana

Present weight category: Flyweight

Employed with: Indian Army

Honours: Asian Championships (**bronze** 2017, **gold** 2019, **silver** 2021), Asian Games (**gold** 2018), Commonwealth Games (**silver** 2018, **gold** 2022), World Championships (**silver** 2019)

- First Indian male boxer to win a World Championships silver medal
- Former World No. 1 who entered Tokyo Olympics as the top seed

AGE 26

GAME THEORY

The highest rating peaks in chess

FIDE started officially publishing Elo rating lists in 1971. A look at the 25 highest peaks achieved since then:

Magnus Carlsen

Garry Kasparov

Fabiano Caruana

Levon Aronian

Player	Peak rating	Achieved
Magnus Carlsen	**2882**	2014 May
Garry Kasparov	**2851**	1999 Jul
Fabiano Caruana	**2844**	2014 Oct
Levon Aronian	**2830**	2014 Mar
Wesley So	**2822**	2017 Feb
Shakhriyar Mamedyarov	**2820**	2018 Sep
Maxime Vachier-Lagrave	**2819**	2016 Aug
Viswanathan Anand	**2817**	2011 Mar
Vladimir Kramnik	**2817**	2016 Oct
Veselin Topalov	**2816**	2015 Jul
Ding Liren	**2816**	2015 Oct
Hikaru Nakamura	**2816**	2018 Nov
Alexander Grischuk	**2810**	2014 Dec
Alireza Firouzja	**2804**	2021 Dec
Anish Giri	**2798**	2015 Oct
Teimour Radjabov	**2793**	2012 Oct
Ian Nepomniachtchi	**2792**	2021 May
Alexander Morozevich	**2788**	2008 Jul
Sergey Karjakin	**2788**	2011 Jul
Vassily Ivanchuk	**2787**	2007 Oct
Bobby Fischer	**2785**	1972 Jul
Anatoly Karpov	**2780**	1994 Jul
Boris Gelfand	**2777**	2013 Nov
Richard Rapport	**2776**	2022 Apr
P. Harikrishna	**2770**	2016 Dec

PICTURE THIS

TIM DE WAELE/GETTY IMAGES

Flip and pitch

Olympic gold medallist Sunisa Lee put her own spin on the ceremonial first pitch at the Major League Baseball game between the Minnesota Twins and Toronto Blue Jays earlier this month.

The 19-year-old gymnast stepped up to the mound at Target Field in Minneapolis, Minnesota, executed a flawless flip – no hands – and threw out the pitch, to gasps and applause.

Lee is the reigning Olympic all-around champion. She is also a World Championships gold medallist, having finished first with the American team in 2019.

The ceremonial first pitch is a longstanding ritual in baseball, dating back to the 1890s. A guest of honour, usually a notable figure, throws a ball to start the game.

In the beginning, the guest of honour made the throw from their seat in the stands to a waiting player, usually the home team's catcher, on the field.

But the ritual shifted completely to the field in the 1980s when then US President Ronald Reagan threw the first pitch on the diamond at a Baltimore Orioles game.

Ever since, the ceremonial first pitch is thrown from the pitcher's mound, or in front of it, towards the home plate, where a home player catches it.

Home Minister, others asked to surrender sites: BDA chairman

'Officials erred in following rules while allotting alternative sites'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Three people, including Home Minister Araga Jnanendra, who recently received alternative sites, have been asked to surrender them back to the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), chairman S.R. Vishwanath told *The Hindu* on Friday.

A file photo of the BDA head office in Bengaluru.

To be transferred

He said that the secretary and deputy secretary, who had played a role in allotting alternative sites, will be transferred from BDA. The Supreme Court had previously ruled that BDA can allot sites in developed layouts only through auctions.

On Thursday, the court came down heavily on former BDA Commissioner Rajesh Gowda, who was shunted out on Friday, for illegally allotting alternative sites in the developed RMV II Stage extension to those who had previously received 'G' category sites.

The court had observed that sites were valued ₹9 crore to ₹10 crore in RMV Layout, and the act of the Commissioner and his subordinates resulted in severe financial loss to BDA. The court said that as per the previous order of the High Court, the State government or the BDA had no power to allot 'G' category sites.

'Erred in following rules'

Mr. Vishwanath admitted that the officials erred in following rules while allotting the sites.

"As per the rules, corner sites or other sites in developed layouts cannot be allotted as alternative sites. Allotment can only happen after the auction. The Home Minister was initially allotted sites in HSR layout, but due to disputes, he did not receive the sites. The BDA had allotted an alternative site in RMV II Stage, which is three months older than HSR layout. A few days ago, the BDA had communicated to the Home Minister that the site should be surrendered back as there were lapses in following rules. He too agreed," he said.

Interior decorator turns chain-snatcher

His luck runs out after five years

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The city police have arrested a 35-year-old resident of Puttenahalli, who has been involved in multiple cases of chain-snatching over the past five years.

Santhosh, who hails from Tamil Nadu, is a B.Com graduate and works as an interior decorator in the city. To fund his addiction to gambling and other vices, he had resorted to chain-snatching, the police said. They have recovered 51 gold chains totally weighing 2.5 kg, two bikes, and a car used for the crime, altogether worth ₹1.5 crore.

Puttenahalli police, probing a chain-snatching case in July 2022, hit a roadblock when they found that the bike seen in the CCTV footage had a fake number plate. Four special teams were formed to crack the case.

"We analysed footage from hundreds of CCTV cameras in and around the crime scene. The person never removed his helmet, and the bike had a fake number plate. The only clue we had was the helmet. However, a technical investigation trying to track the mobile number that moved in sync with the movement of the bike led us to the suspect, and we recovered the bike and the helmet we had seen in the CCTV footage," said a senior police official.

• ILLUSTRATION: SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

Police arrested Santosh and under sustained interrogation, he confessed to carrying out the crime for five years now. "We were surprised that he was involved in so many cases without getting caught," said a senior official.

The police recovered 51 gold chains, some from him and some he had pawned at various shops across the city. Police have claimed to have cracked 32 cases across the city in Byadarahalli, Mahalakshmi Layout, Marathahalli, Vijaynagar, Hanumanth Nagar, Subramanyapura, Malleswaram, Puttenahalli, Devanahalli, Vidyaranyapura, Mico Layout and other police station limits.

Santosh looked up the RTO website and changed the number plate of his two bikes to avoid detection, police investigations have now revealed. He used to snatch chains whenever he needed money to fund his vices and remain low for a few days later, the police said.

He always worked alone on his bike with his face covered in a helmet. However, the police have also arrested an accomplice Ravi, 35, his friend who provided him logistical support for a share in the proceeds of crime, but he has claimed he did not know of the nature of crime Santosh was indulging in, police sources said.

Man arrested at KIA, 14 kg of heroin seized

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

DRI officials arrested a 45-year-old man from Telangana and recovered 14 kg of heroin concealed under false case of a bag he was carrying. The value of the seized drugs is estimated to be ₹100 crore.

The accused was pinned down as soon as he landed at the KIA from Addis Ababa. The accused had gone to Addis Ababa to search for a job and is suspected to have been roped in by the international drug cartel offering him the job of a carrier.

The accused was offered money along with tickets and stay in star hotel with an assignment to hand over the parcel to a contact in Delhi. The accused, soon after landing in KIA, was supposed to take a flight to Delhi, where he was supposed to meet his contact and hand over the consignment soon after getting out of the airport, officials said.

This is the eighth case the DRI has cracked since July 15 this year. Sources in the DRI said that special operations against narcotics has been launched since July as drug smuggling linked to Addis Ababa are on the rise. The total value of the seized drugs from all the eight cases is estimated to be ₹250 crore.

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To boost MEMU ridership, airport employees urged to use monthly passes

SWR holds meeting with representatives of BIAL, cargo concessionaires, airlines, construction firms

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

In an attempt to boost the ridership of MEMU train services, the South Western Railway (SWR) is coming up with a range of solutions, including urging employees working in Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) to utilise monthly passes.

On Friday, SWR officials held a meeting with representatives of the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), the operator of the KIA, as well as representatives of cargo concessionaires, airlines, construction companies and others. More than 20 representatives participated.

The Railways says that MEMU services are greatly beneficial for people working at KIA. • FILE PHOTO

Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Bengaluru Division Shyam Singh said that officials deliberated on improving ridership in MEMU train services which were introduced almost a month ago. "We deliberated on what needs to be improved to increase patronage. At present, a train can carry over 800 passengers, but hardly ten people are using the train. We have received suggestions on altering schedules, giving stoppage at Doddajala and others. We will implement suggestions that help a larger section of people working at the airport and passengers travelling to the airport," he added.

The official said that train services to the airport are an economical option of travel. "If employees buy monthly passes and travel in these trains, it becomes even cheaper. If we get demand, we are ready to provide monthly passes at the workplaces of employees," he said.

A monthly pass costs ₹300. A single trip ticket price costs up to ₹35 from city limits. Over 28,000 people are said to be working in various sectors on the campus of the airport. The BIAL has already put up schedules of train services at the terminal areas and other places for the benefit of employees and air passengers.

To create awareness and popularise the services, volunteers of Citizens for Citizens, along with others, will travel in a MEMU train to the airport on August 27. Rajkumar Dugar of Citizens for Citizens said that volunteers will travel in a train that leaves Cantonment at 4 p.m. After visiting the airport, volunteers will return in a train that is scheduled to leave Kempegowda Halt Station at 7.58 p.m.

About 40 Human Resources Managers of different Companies operating at the KIA attended the interactive meeting with the South Western Railway Officials. Shri Shanmugam V., Jothibasu S.P., Nagaraj G., Mohan M. represented BIAL, and representatives of other companies like, Menzies, Aviation Bobba, Air India SATS, TAJ-SATS, Spicejet Airline, Globe Ground India, Celebi, Plaza Premium Group, SLV Groups, Indian Oil Skytanking, Windmills etc., were present.

Railway officials gave a presentation to highlight the system facilities and current operations of trains via halt station.

UAPA slapped on 4 persons

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HASSAN

The Shivamogga police have slapped the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 against four persons arrested on charges of stabbing a native of Rajasthan in Shivamogga on August 15.

The accused are Tanveer Ahmed, 22, Nadeem Faisal, 25, Abdul Rehman, 25, and Mohammed Jabi, 30. They were arrested on charges of stabbing Prem Singh, 20, during clashes over displaying the poster of V.D. Savarkar in Shivamogga city during I-Day celebrations.

Shivamogga Superintendent of Police B.M. Laxmi Prasad said that UAPA was slapped on them as during the investigation it was found that the accused did commit the crime under the influence of fundamentalist ideology. The police shot at Jabi as he allegedly tried to escape after attempting to attack them. He is under treatment at McGann Hospital. The other three are in judicial custody. Prem Singh is recovering.

Karnataka Sangeeta Nritya Academy announces Kalashree awardees

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Sangeeta Nritya Academy (KSNA) on Thursday announced the list of Karnataka Kalashree awards for 2022-23.

According to a release, Karnataka Kalashree lifetime achievement awards will be presented to C.R. Ramachandra, Channarayapatanna, for Carnatic classical music and Geeta Saralaya, danseuse and renowned guru, Mangaluru.

The other awardees are: Carnatic Music: C.A. Nagaraja, Mysuru and M. Narayana, Suratkal, Mangaluru - vocal. P.K. Damadaram from Puttur-Saxophone.

Hindustani music: M.P. Hegade Padigere, Sirsi, Mahadevappa Ningappa Halli, Gadag, both for vocals. Hanumanthappa B. Thimmapura, Shiggavi, Haveri - Violin, Fayaz Khan, Bengaluru - Sarangi/vocal.

Dance: Rohini Imarati from Dharwad and Pushpa Krishnamurthy from Shivamogga. Purushottama, Bengaluru - Dance (mrudanga).

Sugama Sangeeta: Sidrammappa Police Patil, Kalaburagi, Madhura Ravikumar, Benglauru.

Katha Kirtan: Sheela Naidu, Bengaluru.

Gamaka: Ananta Narayana, Hosahalli and Chandrashekara Kedhilaya from Udupi.

Special award has been bestowed on Praveen D Rao, Bengaluru - multi instrumentalist, music composer and lyricist.

The award presentation ceremony will be held at Ravindra Kalakshetra during the last week of September 2022.

Free rides for 300 teachers at Wonderla parks

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Wonderla Holidays Ltd., an amusement park chain, has decided to invite 300 teachers from 150 schools to their parks on Teacher's Day on September 5.

As part of this initiative, select teachers would get free entry and free rides at Wonderla amusement parks in Bengaluru, Kochi and Hyderabad between September 3 and September 5.

Arun K. Chittilapilly, Managing Director, Wonderla Holidays, said, "Throughout the pandemic, teachers juggled between managing their homes and their profession, and have aced it equally. Wonderla takes this opportunity to honour those mentors." Wonderla has announced a 20% discount on bookings for teachers who visit between August 29 and September 5.

BUSINESS CONNECT

A Business Initiative

Girias 109th Showroom opened at Attibele

GIRIAS is a name synonymous with trust & quality for the past 50 years. The Love, Support, Trust & Loyalty of our Esteemed Customers has made GIRIAS one of the Leading Consumer Durable Retailers in the Country. During this period GIRIAS has emerged as the favourite Electronics & Home Appliances shopping Destination in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry. Our 109th Store inaugurated at Attibele by Mr. P L Giria,(Director, Girias), Mr. K L Giria,(Director, Girias), Mr. Naveen Giria,(Director, Girias), Mr. H R Giria,(Director, Girias) & Mr. Basavaraj (Land Lord)..

P N RAO - Committed to Green Energy

Bengaluru's P N RAO becomes first tailoring brand to go green with solar Sustainability and commitment to ESG have been the hallmark of responsible businesses today. Technology and retail giants have been among the top companies that have embraced renewable sources of energy. Commitment to renewable energy has been surging over the past few years as investments in the field increase with technology and retail sectors spearheading the drive. Bespoke tailoring is not far behind. Bengaluru-based PN RAO, the bespoke tailoring brand, has tied up with Bengaluru-based Emmvee Photovoltaic Power for its electricity supply. Emmvee had recently commissioned a modern solar module manufacturing facility near Bengaluru. "With the environment facing a lot of stresses and strains due to the environmental damage wrought by humans, it's become imperative to mitigate the damage. There's a need to do the best we can to not worsen the situation, and instead slowly reverse the damage. Energy is one of the reasons for much of the emissions," said Naveen Pishe Partner, P N RAO. He added, "We are trying to do our mite to not play a role in adding to the pollutants in the air. We are reducing our carbon footprint by opting for solar power. We are proud of the fact that we are the first industrial unit in the Hoskote industrial belt to go completely solar, said Ketan Pishe, Patner P N RAO.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds wins Two Awards at the 48th IGJA

Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one of the largest jewellery group, has won awards in two categories - Highest Employment on the Company Rolls and Global Retailer of the Year award at the 48th India Gem & Jewellery Awards (IGJA) 2021 organised by Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC). IGJA awards are known as one of the most prestigious awards in the gems and jewellery industry.

Mr. Asher O, Managing Director - India Operations and Mr. KP Abdul Salam, Vice Chairman, Malabar Group received the awards at the awards night held at Grand Hyatt, Mumbai. "It's a great honour to win the prestigious awards at the 48th IGJA 2021. The awards recognises our robust global presence and our commitment to build an efficient workforce to serve our customers with world class shopping experience," said Mr.MP Ahammed, Chairman, Malabar Group.

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No.: E-58/2022-2023 **E-TENDERS** Date : 23.08.2022

E-Tender are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vender must have Class III Digital Signature and registrations on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence S.No., Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity. **S.No.:- 1.** 09211136D, (08/09/2022), Brush Assembly Movable Contact, to PL No. 18420126, 51 Nos., **S.No.:- 2.** 09221108A, (13/09/2022), Circiut Module - Diode Input Panel, to PL No. 18000125, 80 Nos., **S.No.:- 3.** 09221012A, (13/09/2022), Treminal Board 8 PT, to PL No. 18350770, 15 Nos., **S.No.:- 4.** 09221083A, (13/09/2022), Sheet Assembly Cover, to PL No. 18022273, 23 Nos., **S.No.:- 5.** 09221010A, (16/09/2022), Switch Toggle, to PL No. 18310345, 36 Nos., **S.No.:- 6.** 09221040A, (16/09/2022), Res-200K-8W, to PL No. 18300376, 45 Nos., **S.No.:- 7.** 09221098A, (20/09/2022), Circuit Breaker Comp. Control 15 AMPS, to PL No. 18310096, 113 Nos., **S.No.:- 8.** 09221004A, (20/09/2022), Non Fan Top Grid & Fan Top Grid, to PL No. 18250038, 81 Nos. & PL NO. 18250040, 58 Nos., **S.No.:- 9.** 09221767, (11/10/2022), Oil Pump Transformer Along with Motor, to PL No. 29530027, 453 Nos., **S.No.:- 10.** 04223165 (14/09/22) Fibre Glass PL No. 11458045, 463 Nos., **S.No.:- 11.** 04225006 (16/09/22) Fuel Tank Asm PL No. 17038870, 9 Set., **S.No.:- 12.** 04225010 (19/09/22) Long Hood Structure PL No. 17544555, 9 Set., **S.No.:- 13.** BID No.E, **Tender No.:-** 07215319B, **Due Date:-** 09.09.2022, **PL. No.:-** NON STOCK, **Description:-** Rack Server, **Quantity:-** 01 No., **S.No.:- 14.** R/A (Double Bid System), 09211104B, (16/09/2022), Rectifier Bank Assembly, to PL No. 18021554, 182 Nos. **CORRIGENDUM S.No.:-15. Bid No.E-49, Tender No.:-** 10211286 Turbo Wheel impeller Balance Assembly Part No. 16080385, **Revision:-** 1, **Details of Corrigendum:-** The tender opening date has been revised and now the same will be opened on 30/08/22 instead of 22/08/22, **NOTE:** All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged for above tenders. The details of above tenders are available on www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in.

PRO/BLW/S-60 PCMM

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NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Technical Partnership with Industry leaders for setting up of Centre of Excellence)

The Uttarakhand Workforce Development Project (UKWDP), Department of Skill development and Employment (DSDE) intends to improve the quality and relevance of ITI training. As a part of the project, the department proposes to enter into **partnership agreement with industry leaders to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Manufacturing technology**.

Through this notice, The Project Director, UKWDP intends to invite reputed industry leaders to participate and send their expression of Interest in accordance with the REOI (Request for Expression of Interest. A pre-consultation meeting is scheduled to take place at the address mentioned above on 05.09.2022 at 1100 Hrs. In case of difficulty in attending the meeting physically a virtual pre-consultation meeting can be held.

REOI can be downloaded from www.uksdm.org. EOI should reach the office at the address mentioned above or through email mentioned above latest by **1700 Hrs. on 12-09-2022.**

Project Director

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
ROAD DIVISION, DUMKA, JHARKHAND

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Re Tender Reference No. RCD/DUMKA/ 1749
Date- 25.08.2022

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2(a)	Approximate value of Work (Rs. In Lacs)	Rs. 20,77,44,951.00 (Rupees Twenty Crore Seventy Seven Lac Forty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty One Only.)
(b)	Bid Security (Rs In Lacs)	Rs 20.78 Lacs
3.	Time of Completion	Eleven months
4.	Last date/Time for receipt of bids	19.09.2022 Up to 12.00 Noon.
5	Date of Publication of Tender on website	09.09.2022 AT 10.30 A.M
6.	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer Road Division, Dumka
7.	Contact no. of Procurement officer	7070190875
8.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	**0651-2401010**

Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

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Ministry of Science & Technology, (Govt. of India)
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RECRUITMENT NOTICE
[Advt. No. NABI/ADMIN/1(001)/2022-23-01/Rectt.]

National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali, is an autonomous R&D Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. The institute has a state-of-the-art facility in translational research areas at the interface of Agricultural Biotechnology and Food & Nutritional Biotechnology.

NABI invites applications from the Indian Citizens for filling up the following Administrative and Technical positions on Direct Recruitment basis, as detailed below:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts & Category	Age Limit	Level as per 7th CPC
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2.	Management Assistant	01 (OBC - 01)	30 Years*	06 (Rs 35400-112400)
	TECHNICAL POSITIONS			
3.	Assistant Engineer	02 (UR-01; (OBC - 01)	30 Years*	07 (Rs 44900-142400)
4.	Senior Technical Officer	01 (UR – 01)	35 Years	10 (Rs 56100-177500)
5.	System Analyst	01 (UR – 01)	35 Years	10 (Rs 56100-177500)
6.	Technical Officer	01 (UR – 01)	30 Years	06 (Rs 35400-112400)
7.	Senior Technical Assistant	02 (UR – 01; EWS - 01)	30 Years	06 (Rs 35400-112400)

*Age relaxation shall be as per the Government of India (GOI) norms subject to the submission of supporting documents.

The detailed advertisement and procedure for submitting the application are available at NABI Website www.nabi.res.in. Amendments/ Corrigendum in the advertisement, if any, shall be available on the NABI website. Before applying, candidates may refer to the NABI website and apply accordingly.

(Manager Administration)

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ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ –9/2022–23 (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

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ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಅವಧಿ
1	ಹೊರಾಂಗಣ ಪರಿಸರಾಗಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಪರಿಶಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೆಡ್ ಪೂರೈಸುವುದು. (Indent No.93066)	16.95	42,400/–	15 ದಿನ
2	ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಪರಿಶಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೂ ಟೈಪಿನ ಕಾಟ್ ಪೂರೈಸುವುದು. (Indent No.93065)	37.63	75,300/–	15 ದಿನ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಇವೆಂಟ್ : 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29–08–2022 ರಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **07–09–2022 ರಂದು 4.00** ಪಿ.ಎಂ. ಫಲಿತಾಂಶದವರೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. 2) ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08–09–2022 ರ 4.30 ಪಿ.ಎಂ. ಫಲಿತಾಂಶ. ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ.

ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ರಜೆ ಘೋಷಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸುವುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಅರ್ಜಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿಯಮ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪತ್ರಗಳು/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವಸ್ಸೂಗ ಶುಲ್ಕ/ **EMD** ಮೊತ್ತ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿವರವು ನಿರ್ಣಾಹಕರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೇ, ಯಾವುದೇ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಅಥವಾ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಪಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–(ಕೆ.ಬಿ.ಬಾಡಿ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, (ಪ್ರಭಾರ)
ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ಮ.ಗ.ಇ/ಧಾ/506/2022–23/ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್ಪ್ರಸಾ

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FESTIVAL SALES

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ADITI**, D/O. Pradeep Murthy, R/ O. C–1102, Magnifica Brigada Gardenia, RBI Lyt, JP Nagar 7th Ph, Blr–78, have changed name to Aditi Pradeep vide affdvt dtd 24/08/22

I, **PARMANAND** Basappa Jamadar Khani Kotagi, S/O. Basappa Jamadarkhani Kotagi, R/O. T–1, Time Kids School Bldg, 1st Crs, Anjanadri Lyt, Kodigehalli, Blr–97, have changed name to Pramanand Basappa Kotagi vide affdvt dtd 24/08/22

I, **SUNITHA** Lachappa, W/o Ravi Kumar Naik Ramachandra Naik, R/o No.32/2D, Nandini Crest Apartment, 5th Cross, Dinnur Main Road, R.T.Nagar, Bengaluru-560032 have changed my name to Sunitha Ravi Kumar Naik vide affidavit dt: 26.08.2022 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL [SPECIAL DISTRICT JUDGE] OF SALEM, TAMIL NADU.
M.C.O.P. No.1140 /2020

1. **Balasubramani S/o Shanmugam**, aged about 49 years,
2. **Nirmala W/o.Balasubramani**, aged about 42 years, both are residing at D.No. 5/9-1, Kaliyamman Kovil Street, Nilavarappatty, Salem-636 201.

...Petitioners

Vs

Sundaram Private Ltd, No.7, RC. Complex, 206-261, M.G.Mutt Road, Samrajpet, Bangalore-560002.

...Respondent No-1

NOTICE

Please take notice that the above MCOP has been filed as against you and the same has been posted for your appearance on 06-09-2022 before the Hon'ble Special District Court MCOP Tribunal at Salem, Tamil Nadu at 10.30 A.M. by inperson or through duly instructed counsel, failing which the same will be heard and decided in your absence

V.KUMAR., B.com, LLB.
Advocate. Rasipuram
9865017684

IN THE COURT OF THE COMMERCIAL JUDGE (CCH-83) AT BANGALORE
COM.O.S. NO. 769 OF 2021

BETWEEN
ICICI Bank Ltd.
A body corporate incorporated and registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 and licensed As a Bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 having Registered Office at "Landmark", Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390007 & having its Branch Office at Regional Office at ICICI Bank Ltd., 4/10, 1st Floor, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Road, Bangalore- 560 068 and represented by its POA holder and Collection Manager Mr. Rohit Ali M, S/o. Ishrath Ali M, Age : 45 Years.

...PLAINTIFF

AND :
Mr. Thanigachalam S and another ...DEFENDANT

Summons to the defendant by way of paper publication

To,
Defendant:
1. Mr. THANIGACHALAM S, Aged about 40 years, Son of Seenu A,
2. Mrs. SARASHWATHI T, Aged about 31 years, Wife of Thanigachalam S, Both are R/at. # 15/3, 3rd Cross, Subhas Nagar, Singasandra, Bangalore- 560 068.

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has filed a suit under Order VII Rule 1 of the Civil Procedure Code for recovery of **Rs. 14,86,825/- (Rupees Forteen Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Eight Hundred And Twenty Five Only)** together with interest at the rate 18% p.a. from date of due till the date of realization. You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court (CCH-83), in person or by a pleader on the 28th Day of September 2022 at 11:00 a.m. to show cause against the suit, and failing wherein the suit will be heard and determined ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court this 22th day of August 2022.

By the order of the Court
Asst Registrar,
Commercial Court
City Civil Court, Bangalore

Advocates for Plaintiff
S.M. ANEES AHAMED, B.M.KUSHALAPPA,
Advocates,
No. 4 (10/2), West Park Road, Kumara Park East, Bangalore-560001

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **DARSHAN** Patil S/o Nandappa, R/at No.6, Sri Nidhi Nilaya, 2nd Cross, R K G Layout, Akshayanagar, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru-560016 have changed my name from Darshan Patil to Darshan Nandappa Patil vide affidavit dated 25-08-2022 before Notary Uday Kumar.K, Bengaluru.

I, **ABDUN** Nabi SK alias Abdun Nabi Sekh, 39 years old, S/o Abu Bakkar Siddik alias Abu Bakkar Siddique R/o MR Villa, 10, Ammayamma Layout, SR Layout Main Road, Murugeshpalya, Bangalore-560017 have changed my name to Abdun Nabi Shaikh vide affidavit dated 09/07/2022 sworn before notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

I, **NAGAMANI**, W/o Service No.15320117L, Rank: L/Hav Name: Tarakeswara Rao Vanka R/o # 39-14-30/1, Mona Heights, Murali Nagar, Madhavadhara (Vill & Post), Visakhapatnam(Dist), Andhra Pradesh-530007 have changed my name from Nagamani to Vanka Nagamani vide affidavit dated 26-08-2022 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL SPECIAL DISTRICT JUDGET OF SALEM, TAMIL NADU.
M.C.O.P. No. 1146 / 2020

Minor. Manisha rep by her N/F Mother Gowri D/O Balakrishnan Aged about 13 years, Near Steal Plant, Mohan Nagar, Keerapappapampadypudur, Salem-636 430 ..Petitioner

Vs

Sundaram Private Ltd, No. 7, RC. Complex, 206-261, M.G.Mutt Road, Samrajpet, Bangalore-560002. ..Respondent No.1

NOTICE

Please take notice that the above MCOP has been filed as against you and the same has been posted for your appearance on 06-09-2022 before the Hon'ble Special District Court MCOP Tribunal at Salem, Tamil Nadu at 10.30 A.M. by inperson or through duly instructed counsel, failing which the same will be heard and decided in your absence.

V.KUMAR., B.com., LL.B.,
Advocate. Rasipuram.
9865017684

NOTICE

In the Court of the PRL. Dist. Judge Guntur, Guntur Dist., Andhra Pradesh I.A. No. 2776/2015 in MVOP No: 1168 / 2012
Between :
Shaik Lal Ahmed & Others ...Petitioners
and
Mohammed Hyder & Others
...Respondents

To
R-3 Shaik Amzad (Proposed Party), S/o. Sk. Chand Pasha, R/o. Markunda (V), Bidar(Md & Dt.), Karnataka State.

Please take notice that the above petitioners filed a claim Petition before the above said Hon'ble court for compensation and the Hon'ble court ordered notice to you number of times, but you intentionally evade to receive the said notice. At last the Hon'ble court ordered notice to you by way of this paper publication. Hence you are here requested to appear before the Hon'ble court on **08-09-2022** at **10-30AM** either in person or through advocate failing which the matter will be decided in your absence as ex-party.

Hearing Date : 08-09-2022.

K. KESAVARDHAN RAO, Advocate for Petitioners
Guntur, A.P. Cell: 9440261789

TENDERS

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED)
NAFED House, Siddhartha Enclave, Ashram Chowk, Ring Road, New Delhi-110014
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Govt. hints at allowing Ganesha festival at Idgah Maidan

Meeting today to discuss issue

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Revenue Minister R. Ashok have welcomed the interim decision of the division bench of the High Court of Karnataka on Idgah maidan and hinted at allowing Ganesha festival at the controversial Idgah maidan. Chief Minister Mr. Bommai said he had convened a meeting of concerned authorities on Saturday, where final decision would be taken.

'Letter and spirit'

He said the High Court order on Friday stressed on multi-religious nature of our country and the government would take measures to implement the order in its "letter and spirit". "We will take a decision in such a way as to implement the order in its letter and spirit, and fulfill the deep wish of a large section of the society and maintain law and order," he said.

Several Hindutva organisations and prominent BJP leaders like C.T. Ravi, national general secretary of the party has been aggressively pushing for Ganesha pandal at the grounds, which recently saw the Revenue Department hoist the tricolour on Independence Day, after the city's civic body ruled the grounds belonged to the Department and not Wakf Board, which claimed its ownership.

Answering a question from mediapersons on allowing Ganesha festival at Idgah maidan, Mr. Ashok said the High Court order essentially meant the Department and by extension he was authorised to examine applications for the festival to be held at the venue and allow them. "Ganesha is known to be *vignanivaraka* (one who removes obstacles). I hope he removes this obstacle too," he said.

Police apprehensions

Sources said the police department has expressed apprehensions of allowing Ganesha utsava at the Maidan, fearing stirring of the communal cauldron in the city.

IN BRIEF

Programme for teachers

BENGALURU

IGNOU, NAAC Accredited A++ will be conducting UGC approved 6 days' online Professional Development Program (NEP-PDP) on implementation of NEP-2020 for university and college teachers.

Mayoral polls: JD(S) rules out truck with Cong.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The Janata Dal (Secular) on Friday ruled out the possibility of tying up with the Congress in Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) council ahead of the mayoral polls scheduled for September 6.

Fielding reporters' queries, former Minister and JD(S) MLA for K.R. Nagar, S.R. Mahesh, made it clear that the party's local leaders were upset with former CM Siddaramaiah because of his attitude. "We are ready to sit in the Opposition, but will not go with them," he said. Mr. Mahesh said that former CM H.D. Kumaraswamy had asked leaders to take a decision locally after discussing the matter with the party councillors.

FROM PAGE ONE

'Consider applications on holding religious events at Idgah maidan'

He pointed out that the Board has made the claim over the property after 57 years of the said notification, which is not binding on the Government.

The 1965 notification does not specify the either the survey number or boundary of the land mention in the list of wakf lands, Mr. Navadgi argued.

However, Senior Advocate Jayakumar S. Patil appearing for the Board has opposed the prayer of the government to permit the use of Idgah maidan land for any purpose other than permitted by the single judge. Mr. Patil claimed that BBMP's action ordering registration of khata in favour of the State Government's Revenue Department was erroneous.

Earlier order

The single bench had allowed the use of Idgah maidan land only for the flag hoisting on Independence Day and the Republic Day, use as a playground, and for offering prayer by people from Muslim community only on two days, on Ramzan and Bakrid festival days, in a year and not any other day.

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SUNDAY, AUG. 28	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:33
RISE 06:49	SET 19:28
MONDAY, AUG. 29	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:32
RISE 07:38	SET 20:05

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	32	20
Bengaluru	28	20

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26°C The weather will be comfortable and humid. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur. Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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Objections to 'glorification' of Savarkar in school textbook

One particular paragraph has left teachers intrigued

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar

While attempts by the BJP government in Karnataka to "glorify" Hindutva ideologue Vinayak Damodar Savarkar has been in the news, it has now come to light that a lesson on him has been inserted in the revised high school curriculum by the Rohith Chakrathirtha-headed textbook revision committee.

Earlier, insertion of a speech by Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh founder Keshav Baliram Hedgewar had turned controversial.

It has come to light that the Class VIII, Kannada-2, textbook has added writer K.T. Gatti's "Kalavannu Geddavaru" lesson instead of the lesson "Blood Group." This lesson is a travelogue, where the author talks about the Andaman cellular jail, where Savarkar was incarcerated by the British.

Controversial paragraph

Objection has been raised on the ground that the lesson "glorified" Savarkar in a section of the lesson. Though there were no objections raised earlier, a few hours after the text went viral on social media on Friday, the Karnataka Textbook Society (KTBS) has received many oral complaints, said sources.

The author, in one paragraph says, "There was not even a key hole in the cell where Savarkar was incarcerated. But, bulbul birds used to visit the room and Savarkar used sit on their wings and fly out and visit the motherland every day."

Many teachers have objected to this paragraph. "If the writer has praised Savarkar metaphorically, there is no objection. But the lines are written as if it is a literal fact. It is very difficult to explain this to the students. In case the students ask questions and seek proof about this, how do we do it?" asked a teacher.

Minister justifies

Asked for a response on this, B.C. Nagesh, Minister, Department of School Education and Literacy, told *The Hindu*, "Savarkar is a great freedom fighter. No matter how glorified he is, it is not adequate for his sacrifice. What the writer has described in that lesson is accurate."

BJP insulting Tilak by placing Savarkar's photos at Ganesha pandals, says DKS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar on Friday accused the ruling BJP of insulting freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak by placing photographs of V.D. Savarkar, icon of Hindutva, at Ganesha Chaturthi pandals.

Responding to a question, the Congress leader said, "There is some meaning if they place Bal Gangadhar Tilak's photographs at Ganesha pandals." During freedom movement, Tilak made the household worship of Ganesha into a public event. The BJP leaders would be downgrading their party's principles by placing Savarkar's photographs at Ganesh Chaturthi pandals instead, Mr. Shivakumar said.

The ruling BJP has nothing to speak about development work it had undertaken in the State and has taken a communal route to divide people ahead of next year's elections, he claimed.

AICC General Secretary in-charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala will visit Bengaluru, and meetings related to Bharat Jodo would be held on August 28 and 29. Former Chief Minister Digvijay Singh and MP Jairam Ramesh will visit the State on September 1 and hold meetings with block level presidents, Mr. Shivakumar said.

'Prevention the only cure for non-communicable diseases'

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

To address the growing burden of non-communicable diseases (NCD) in Karnataka, the State's Health Vision Group has recommended a comprehensive action plan involving prevention, screening, early diagnosis, referral, and rehabilitation in every district.

During 1990 to 2016, disability-adjusted life years (DALYS) due to ischemic heart diseases in Karnataka moved from fourth to first position, stroke from 12th to 4th position, and diabetes mellitus from 23rd to 7th position. The burden of NCDs begins to increase from age 25 and moves upwards, the report stated. According to the Karnataka Health Vision Report, 2021, that was released earlier this week, the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) should be given the highest importance to address the situation through multi-pronged approaches.

Characterised by common risk factors, NCDs (also known as chronic diseases or lifestyle-related disorders) include Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs), stroke, cancers, diabetes mellitus, chronic lung diseases, neurological disorders, and mental health conditions among others.

Non-communicable diseases and current burden in Karnataka

Cardiovascular diseases	7.58%
Cancer	126.25/1 million
Chronic lung disorders	4.36%
Diabetes	7.5%
Stroke	150/1 million
Mental disorder	34%

"In the recent Non-Communicable Diseases and Injuries (NCDI) Lancet Commission report, the earlier 4x4 NCD agenda of four diseases (cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer) and four risk factors (unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use, and harmful use of alcohol) has now been extended to include mental health and air pollution, thus making it 5x5 agenda for policy and programme purposes. This, in no way, undermines the importance of many other NCDs," stated the Vision Report.

Former director of NIMHANS G. Gururaj, who is the chairman of the Vision Group as well as the Technical Committee on NCDs, said the Lancet Commission report has identified about 20 conditions in less than five years age group, 52 causes in 15 - 40 years, about 40 causes in those aged beyond 40 years that contribute to nearly 75% of disease burden, especially among poorer sections of society. "The most predominant modifiable risk factors include biological factors like elevated levels of systolic blood pressure, fasting plasma glucose and total cholesterol. In contrast, behavioural risk factors like obesity, physical inactivity due to sedentary lifestyles, unhealthy diet, tobacco use, alcohol use, stress, and others play an equally important role," he said.

"Most of these risk factors develop during the adolescence, or young adult phase of an individual, which, when timely intervened, can significantly reduce the burden of NCDs in later life. For NCDs there is no permanent cure but only care," Dr. Gururaj said. The Vision Report has pointed out that valid, reliable, representative and real-time data with regard to NCDs and their risk factors is extremely limited at the State-level due to lack of systematic surveillance, disease registries, and research."Even though the State partakes in many national and international studies/surveys, State-specific disaggregated data (as per age, gender, residence, education, and income, and other characteristics) is not available as it is combined with national data," the report stated.

Epidemiological transition

"Karnataka, being in the Higher Middle Epidemiological transition level category, has undergone major epidemiological and socio demographic transition since 2000 with an increasing burden of NCDs, surpassing the burden due to communicable and infectious diseases. There is no clear data for NCD burden in Karnataka from official agencies," the report pointed out.

Role of cardiovascular diseases

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

C.N. Manjunath, Director, Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, who is part of the Vision Group committee on non-communicable diseases, said cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) contribute 34.1% of all deaths and 11% of all disability-adjusted life years in Karnataka.

"CVDs are the leading cause of death in the age group of 30 and above (19% of all deaths in males and 14% in females) and deaths increase with age. Among the causes of deaths, those due to "Diseases of the Circulatory System," "Ischaemic Heart Diseases" accounted for the highest number of deaths (36.79%) in Karnataka," he said.

IN BRIEF

Power shutdown

BENGALURU

There will be disruption in power supply from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday in the areas serviced from 66/11 kV DLF (Annable) MUSS for quarterly maintenance works. The areas affected are: DLF Apartment, Beguru and surroundings.

Science exhibition

BENGALURU

The Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, is organizing a three-day science exhibition titled *Science in Action* from September 3 on its premises on Sri T. Chowdaiah Road, High Grounds between 10.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. Call Ph: 080-22379725 or 22660884 or visit www.taralaya.org.

ODISHA
Department of Tourism
Government of Odisha
Paryatan Bhawan, Lewis Road, Bhubaneswar-751014
Phone: (0674) 243 2177 ; Fax: (0674) - 243887
https://dot.odishatourism.gov.in

No. 6913 / TSM, Bhubaneswar, dt. : 26.08.22
TCT-TSP-FEST-0005-2022

APPLICATION FOR KONARK FESTIVAL
(1st to 5th December 2022)
Open Air Auditorium, Konark, Odisha, India

Tourism Department, Government of Odisha invites applications from reputed Odissi Classical Dance Artist / Troupe / Institute / Organisation to perform at the Konark Festival 2022 on the **1st and 2nd December 2022.**

For details application form, eligibility criteria and terms and conditions visit: **www.odishatourism.gov.in**, **http://www.orissasangeetnatak.org** and **http://odishaculture.gov.in** .

The filled application forms along with required documents (photo copy) to be submitted to Director, Tourism Department, Lewis Road, Bhubaneswar-751014 on or before **10th September 2022 upto 5.30 PM.**

Joint Director & Dy. Secretary to Govt.
R-05
OIPR-37001/11/0007/2223

(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Madhugiri
No:EE/PWD/Dvn/AE-2/Tender/2022-23 Dated: 24.08.2022
Invitation For Tender
Tender ref no: 18/2022-23

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Madhugiri, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers, for the works. Total 03 Works (Sira Taluk), Approx. amount for the work is Rs.100.00 Lakhs. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka Viz.http://eproc. karnataka.gov.in. Tenders must be submitted through e-procurement portal on or before **08.09.2022** (up to 4.00 pm). Technical bids will be opened on **09.09.2022** after 4.15 PM, Financial bid will be opened on **13.09.2022** after 4.00 PM. Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Madhugiri
DIPR/TUM/436/MCA/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DISTRICT PLANNING CO-ORDINATORS OFFICE, S.S.K., VIJAYAPUR.
TENDER NOTIFICATION

The following tenders are invited to Providing man power service on Out Sourcing staff of Data entry operators, Computer Programmers, Account Asst. & Part time Teachers to Vijayapura District. Last date for submission of application 08.09.2022.
For more information Please log in to http:www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and contact office phone number: 9448999389.

Sd/- DDPI,
ಜಾಹೀರಾತು/ಮುದ್ರಣ/388/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022-23 **SSK, VIJAYAPUR**

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, Dasarahalli Division, 2nd & 3rd Cross, 2nd Main Road, 3rd Block, HMT Layout, Near BWSSB Water Tank, Nagasandra, Bengaluru-560 073.
No.BBMP/EE/DD/Ten/08/2022-23 Dated:26.8.2022
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(KW-1) (One tender document system) (Through GOK e-Procurement portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division BBMP, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below :

Sl. No.	Name of work / Category	Approx. value of work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in)
1.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion of Ganesha Idol at 4 points In Ward No.12. (Others)	1.80	450.00
2.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion of Ganesha Idol at 3 points In Ward No.13. (SC)	1.35	169.00
3.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion of Ganesha Idol at 2 points In Ward No.14.(Others)	0.90	225.00
4.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion Of Ganesha Idol at 2 points In Ward No.15. (Others)	0.90	225.00
5.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion Of Ganesha Idol at 2 points In Ward No.39. (Others)	0.90	225.00
6.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion of Ganesha Idol at 2 points in Ward No.41. (SC)	0.90	113.00
7.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion Of Ganesha Idol at 2 points In Ward No.70. (Others)	0.90	225.00
8.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion Of Ganesha Idol at 2 points In Ward No.71. (ST)	0.90	113.00
9.	Supply of Heavy Mazoor, Tractor & Syntex Tank for Immersion of Ganesha Idol at 2 points in Jakkasandra Lake in Ward No.39. (Others).	6.00	1500.00

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Kamataka from **27-08-2022.** 2) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **4.00 p.m. on 05-09-2022.** 3) Financial Bids will be opened on **06-09-2022 at 4:30 p.m.** Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days or from **website:https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP.

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Indian Overseas Bank
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Ph.: 080-22960155. Email: iob2456@iob.in

CORRIGENDUM

The Attention of the public is drawn to the **"HSR Layout Branch Relocation Notice"** advertisement issued by our branch published in this daily newspaper on 21.08.2022. The date of functioning in the New Address has been postponed to **28.09.2022** inserted of 12.09.2022. Other details remain the same.

Date : 26th August, 2022
Place : Bengaluru
Sd/-
Manager

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer
VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division, No.3 Arasikere
Ph: 08174233111 e-mail: eeypd3ask@gmail.com
Tender Notification No: EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-03/YGC/TN-04/2022-23/677 Dated:22.08.2022
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No:04/2022-23 Dtd:22.08.2022 (TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Only through E-procurement system)

Tenders in electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigama Limited, Bangalore by the Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.3, Arasikere, Hassan District in two cover system (Cover I and Cover II). Details of works are as follows Sl. No1)Name of work: Improvements to roads 1) connecting to Narasipur village of Javagal hobli 2) in Kolagunda village limits of Javagal hobli in Belur constituency under SDP Works (PKG -1) Amount put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs): 87.87 Category of Contractor: KPWD Class-III and above contractors 2)Improvements to roads 1) in Malladevihalli village limits of Javagal hobli 2) in Dhananjayapura & kerekodihalli village limits of Javagal hobli in Belur constituency under SDP Works (PKG -2) Amount put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs): 62.94 Category of Contractor: KPWD Class-III and above contractors 3)Improvements to roads 1) from Bandur Bhovi colony to Byrambudi road Via Handralu village of Javagal hobli 2) from Undiganalu Border to Handralu village of Javagal hobli in Belur constituency under SDP Works (PKG -3) Amount put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs): 61.25 Category of Contractor: KPWD Class-III and above contractors 4)Improvements to roads 1) in Javagal village of Javagal hobli 2) from Haranahalli road to Kalanakoppalu road of Javagal hobli in Belur constituency under SDP Works (PKG -4) Amount put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs): 68.14 Category of Contractor: KPWD Class-III and above contractors Details for submission of bids/EMD/ tender conditions/Pre-qualification criteria/ Pre bid details and other information related to above said workcan be obtained through e-portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Intending bidder can access the tender document from Date: **29.08.2022** through e-portal. The authority competent to accept the tenders shall have the right of rejecting all or any of the tenders without assigning any reasons and will not be bound to accept the lowest tender. Corrigendum/ addendum will be published in the e-portal. Any further information required may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours. **Executive Engineer,VJNL, YP Division, No.3, Arasikere. Ph: 08174-233111, e-mail: eeypd3ask@gmail.com**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, VJNL,
ಜಾಹೀರಾತು/ಮುದ್ರಣ/ಇಂಗ್ಲೀಷ್/ಎಂಸಿಎ/458/2022-23 **Y P Division, No.3 Arasikere**

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement portal only)

Bids in two cover are invited through e-portal mode from the reputed agencies/ firm having adequate experience in the thermal power plant for the following works:

1) **KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT 12559/CALL-3 Date: 25.08.2022** Supply, erection, installation, commissioning and testing of 2 Nos. of Oil Injected Screw Air compressors (Atlas copco/ Ingersoll Rand/ Quincy make) of 596cfm, Refrigerant Air dryer, line filters, oil filters, Air receiver tank etc. at Unit 1 & 2 (2X500MW) Ash handling Silo at BTPS. **Total amount put to tender: Rs. 72,12,810/- (inclusive of all taxes). EMD: Rs. 1,44,500/-.**

2) **KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT 12574/CALL-3 Date: 25.08.2022** Servicing/ Repair of Air dryer of Unit 1 & 2 AHP (4 Nos.) including replacement of activated Alumina-BTPS (2X500MW). **Total amount put to tender: Rs. 5,75,604/- (inclusive of all taxes). EMD: Rs. 14,400/-.**

3) **KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT 12575/CALL-3 Date: 25.08.2022** Servicing/ Repair of EOT cranes of Unit 1 & 2 AHP including replacement of necessary spares-BTPS (2X500MW). **Total amount put to tender: Rs. 4,97,488/- (inclusive of all taxes). EMD: Rs. 12,500/-.**

Pre-bid meeting: **06.09.2022 at 11.00 Hrs.** Last date for submission of bids: **07.09.2022 at 16.00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bid: **08.09.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** Opening of Financial Bid: **09.09.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** Tender documents may be downloaded and submitted from GoK e-proc. website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (AHP)-1**, KPCL, BTPS, Kudithini - 583 152. Bellary Dist. Mobile: 94482 90768.

Government of Karnataka
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Gadag
Phone: 08372-297256. Email -id :- ee.rws.gdg@gmail.com
Tender Notification No EE/RDWSS/GDG/JE/TND/2022-23/525 Date:26.08.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION

Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division Gadag invites Work tender from eligible PWD/PRED Contractor related to RDWS&S Division, Gadag District, for the works with details as given below.

Sl No	Indent No	Amount Put to Tender	EMD Amount
1	RWSSD/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT44850	67.46 Lakhs	1.35 Lakhs

The eligible bidders are required to submit through E-Procurement mode only & for More details can be had from this office and also through http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in by clicking **List of Tenders** which will link to all Dept. works list.The date of starting of tender is **26.08.2022**,Date of Pre-Bid meeting **01.09.2022,** Last date for tender queries is **15.09.2022**, Last date for Bid Submission is **16.09.2022**, Date of opening of technical Bid is **19.09.2022** & Date of opening of financial Bid is **23.09.2022**.

Sd/-Executive Engineer
RDW&S Division, Gadag.
DIPR/Gadag/262/2022-23/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT.)
No. PWD/BGM/TND/TA/AE/2022-23/3442 Date: 26.08.2022
: ITEM RATE TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT):-

The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi invites item rate tenders from the eligible contractors registered in E-procurement portal in Public Works Department under KW-1, 2, 3 & 4 Standard tender documents for a total of 30 works under 5054- SCP District & Other Roads, 8443-Deposit Contribution (DMF), 5054 SH Improvements, 5054 SH Renewals and 5054 MDR & Other roads Improvements with maximum & minimum tender amounts of Rs.829.38 Lakhs & Rs. 11.93 Lakhs respectively and EMD with maximum & minimum amount of Rs. 12,45,000/- & Rs. 15,000/- respectively. Part-1 : Tender receipt Date is on 06.09.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Financial Bid Opening Date is on 07.09.2022 after 4.45 PM, Part-2 : Tender receipt Date is on 06.09.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 07.09.2022 after 4.45 PM, Part-3: Tender receipt Date is on 15.09.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 16.09.2022 after 4.45 PM, Part-4: Tender receipt Date is on 21.09.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 22.09.2022 after 4.45 PM, for more information visit www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in after 27.08.2022.

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Belagavi Division Belagavi
DIPR/BGM/NO-NO-782/MCA/2022-23

Department of Public Libraries
Office of the Deputy Director, City Central Library, South Zone, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 011.
Phone: 080-26548829, E-mail: cclsouthzone@gmail.com
No: CCL/SZ/A2-19/N & P SUP/647/2022-23 Date: 23-08-2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement Portal only)

Sealed Tender in two covers system are invited for the year 2022-23 from eligible Firms / Companies for **Supplying of the Newspaper and Periodicals to the Branches and Gramapanchayath Libraries,** three year experienced registered Firms / Companies should participate through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.

The amount of tender is **Rs. 1,25,00,000/-,** EMD Amount for the tender is **Rs. 2,50,000/-.** Participants in the tender should login through Website: **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Date of Pre Bid Meeting is **05-09-2022,** Time: **11.00 AM,** Venue: **Office of the Deputy Director, City Central Library, South Zone, Jayanagar, Bengaluru.** Last Date for Submission of Tenders is **15-09-2022 within 4.00 PM.** and Technical bid will be Opened on **17-09-2022 at 11.30 AM.** and Opening of Financial bid will be intimated. The bidders may also contact undersigned for further details contact at **080-26548829** in the office during working hours.

Sd/- Deputy Director
City Central Library, South Zone, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/1961/Advertn/2022-23

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Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RM No. RAREMG/1970/46945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

THE HINDU
PROPERTY PLUS
ONE STOP PROPERTY SHOP
http://www.thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens

The impact of data centres paralleled with the growth of the ecommerce industry has not gone unnoticed by developers and investors in the country, says **RAKESH REDDY**

Data centres for smart cities

TECH & REALTY

India is one of the fastest growing markets for the digitisation of businesses. Combined with the government mandate for the localisation of data, India has witnessed a 550% increase in investments in Indian data centres in 2021 amounting to $2.2 billion compared to $392 million in 2020. In fact, data centres accounted for 26% of all private equity investments in Indian real estate in 2021.

Overall, India currently accounts for 1.5% of data centres globally and is a steadily growing market. Consumer behaviour in India witnessed a monumental transformation during the COVID pandemic with the widescale adoption of online services.

With over 700 million internet users across the country, there was an exponential migration towards online services and ecommerce due to the nationwide lockdown. This sudden shift in consumer behaviour led to a surge in data centre opportunities, which was a boon for the real estate sector.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

> India's data centre capacity is low compared to the volume that the market demands, thus offering excellent scope for the segment to grow

This was further bolstered by the requirement to localise all data that is generated and processed in the country. The impact of data centres paralleled with the growth of the ecommerce industry has not gone unnoticed by developers and investors. The data centres segment was one of the real estate asset classes that was least affected by the pandemic globally, signalling their crucial role in supporting continued business activity. The underlying factor is that online services cannot exist or grow without data centres, and the real estate sector needs to adapt accordingly.

Demand to rise

Data centres in India currently occupy approximately 7.5 million sq.ft, while more than 8 million sq.ft. are under-construction. Real estate demand for data centres is expected to increase by 15-18 million sq.ft. in the next five years across major Indian cities.

The Indian data centre market is expected to be worth over $10 billion by 2027, with a compound annual growth rate of 15.7%. This surge will be driven by the adoption of 5G, Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, thus increasing use of cloud services.

The emergence of smart cities will also play a massive role in the adoption of data centres. Smart cities will have underlying themes including device connectivity, utilisation of big data and creation of feedback loops – all requiring immense data accessibility and storage.

The government's proposed Data Protection Bill, which mandates localisation of data in the country, is also likely to encourage investment in the segment and support the necessary infrastructure to cater to the growing digital consumption. The increasing adoption of cloud technology, ecommerce, and online storage will drive the need for data centres in the country.

India's data centre capacity is low compared to the volume that the market demands, thus offering excellent scope for the segment to grow. The Indian data centre market is poised to exhibit a higher growth rate than the world average.

Talent pool

Data centres will continue to remain an essential service. High demand and shorter construction time combined with attractive returns and stable long-term yields have led to the rapid expansion of the data centre segment across India leading to more real estate investment opportunities.

The growth of ecommerce has created a massive demand for date centre real estate. Supported by proactive governance and the presence of a massive talent pool, cities such as Hyderabad and Bengaluru have spearheaded the IT/ITeS surge in India with many ecommerce giants establishing their headquarters there.

The ubiquitous digital transformation across India has both accelerated and decentralised the demand for date centre facilities in previously under-serviced locations. Large companies require a varying range of data centre facilities depending on their scale of operations. These facilities need to be in accessible locations with the ability to operate 24 hours a day in order to provide consistent uptime, reliability, and redundancy.

Data centres can be operated in tier 1, tier 2, and tier 3 cities as space and connectivity are the primary constraints. Accordingly, the growth in the data centre segment has led to subsequent real estate growth in tier 2 and tier 3 cities as well.

Due to high power, maintenance, security and real estate costs, many companies are increasingly in favour of Third-Party Data Centre operators, wherein India is playing a vital role. Given India's robust network connectivity, cost advantage, availability of skilled labour, low climate risk, and strong data protection laws, India is well positioned to serve as an important Data Centre hub in the Asia Pacific region.

The writer is Director, Aparna Constructions & Estates Private Limited.

Holistic approach

The year 2020-21 accelerated the need for organisations to reinvent work and the workplace. During this time, employees adapted to remote work for at least a part of their work week. But, despite an overwhelming narrative around workplace flexibility, most employees want to get back to the 'physical' office.

While companies continue to focus on employee productivity and collaboration, this in the long run will eventually imply a full return to the office. Keeping this in mind, organisations must work towards finding the right balance between work in and outside of the office.

What's essential is to undertake an approach that involves rethinking how, when, and where we work.

Post the peak-pandemic period, corporates are adopting a holistic approach and have aimed toward a more employee-centric style. As businesses come to an understanding that fulfilling the employee's needs and requirements will help the business grow productively, the office space designs are evolving to meet the same.

They are trying to create a diverse, dynamic workspace that will inspire the next generation, says Anshuman Magazine of CBRE.

REAL ESTATE

SELLING
RESIDENTIAL HOUSE
HOUSE FOR Sale, Close to BEL 30 x 40 East facing, G+1, 2 BED & 3 BED Rooms, 4 Y Old. 9686441657

RESIDENTIAL
NEAR KANCHIPURAM, DTCP Approved Layouts for Sale. Contact: 8807690796

RESIDENTIAL LAND
OOTY-PALADA 2-Acres Land & Gated Community Villa's for Sale. Fantastic view & Adjacent to Good Road Network. Near to Good Shepherd International School. Ct: 8754026395

COIMBATORE, SIRUVANI Main Road, Mathampatti, Residential approved plot 50 cents/26 cents, Rs.3 Lac per cent. Contact: 88257 16279.

THE HINDU
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SELLING
FACTORIES & SITES
HOSUR SIDCO–I, NH Facing 20Cents Land with Building. 09176780777.

RENTAL
COMMERCIAL
SEMI-COMMERCIAL Independent building G+2 15,000 sft for rent, suitable for Retail Shop, Hospital service center Godown etc Bommanahalli 7676666616

SITE FOR RENT
3.26 Acres of Square Shape of Land for rent for Institutions, Godowns etc. ADDRESS:- 28th ward near Super Spinning Mills at Hindupuram Municipality Limits. Facing - South with 40'0" Road.
Contact:-
B. THIRUPALU
09849140626

RESIDENTIAL
KILPAUK
3 BHK flat at Kilpauk contact 9884308155,9884048789

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PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/201201/003733

9164 045 000

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APARTMENTS FOR SALE IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/290122/004668	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/211209/004576	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/305/PR/180120/001879	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/110722/005059	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/280222/004739	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/181122/002151	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/210312/004002
SARJAPURA	YELAHANKA	THANISANDRA MAIN ROAD	BEGUR (PRE-LAUNCH OFFER)	CHANDAPURA	THANISANDRA	K R PURAM
SARJAPURA - ATTIBELE ROAD	10 MINS. YELAHANKA POLICE STATION	10 MINS. FROM MANYATA TECH PARK	10 MINS. SILK BOARD (MADIWALA)	10 MINS. NARAYANA HRUDAYALAYA	NEAR KNS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	NEAR GARDEN CITY UNIVERSITY
₹ 27.10 - 34.86 Lacs*	₹ 31.22 - 49.63 Lacs*	₹ 1.20 - 1.49 Crores*	₹ 31.08 - 58.36 Lacs*	₹ 25.62 - 34.72 Lacs*	₹ 35.16 - 41.16 Lacs*	₹ 39.36 - 65.13 Lacs*
2 & 3-BHK	2 & 3-BHK	3-BHK	1, 2 & 3-BHK	2 & 3-BHK	2-BHK	2 & 3-BHK
₹ 2,800 / Sq. Ft.	₹ 3,500 / Sq. Ft.	READY TO OCCUPY	₹ 3,800 / Sq. Ft.	₹ 2,800 / Sq. Ft.	READY TO OCCUPY	₹ 3,800 / Sq. Ft.
9164 122 000	8880 758 758	8088 779 779	8880 472 472	8880 013 310	8880 461 461	8880 438 000

*Prices mentioned are base price and may vary with dimensions, floors, and availability. *Brand names mentioned in this advertisement are for demarcation & not for promotion. Travel time may vary with real-time traffic conditions and the route followed to reach the destination, please check your maps for precise and accurate travel time from your location. For more details/information about the projects, visit: www.rera.karnataka.gov.in *T & C Apply

www.dsmaxproperties.com

Private schools write to PM on corruption in education dept.

They have accused officials of demanding 'fixed percentage' for every work

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Quick on the heels of the Karnataka Contractors' Association writing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi making allegations of corruption in the State government, the Registered Unaided Private Schools Managements' Association (RUPSA) has shot off a letter accusing rampant corruption in the Department of School Education and Literacy.

B.C. Nagesh

RUPSA has directly accused Minister B.C. Nagesh, besides department officials, of demanding money for renewal of recognition and providing no-objection certificates to CBSE and ICSE schools, RTE reimbursements, and for carrying out other such administrative functions.

Audio document

The association has also released an audio document in which a Block Education Officer (BEO) is allegedly heard demanding "commission" to release RTE reimbursement.

At a press conference in Bengaluru on Friday, Lokesh Talikatte, president of RUPSA, claimed, "For the past two years, due to irresponsible behaviour and greed of our Education Minister, private unaided schools are facing unbearable harassment. We brought our plight to the notice of the Chief Minister on several occasions but in vain. The Education Minister is clever enough to manipulate in connivance with department officials. They give scant regard to the Chief Minister's instructions and throw our appeals into the dustbin. Because of this, thousands of private schools, especially in educationally backward districts such as Bidar, have been left with no option but closure."

RUPSA representative further said that they had written to the Prime Minister earlier too, but had received no response.

"The BEOs and the Deputy Directors at the districts have fixed percentages for every work and are harassing private school managements. The department renews the recognition every year and no file is moved without a commission or bribe. As there was no solution from the Chief Minister and the Minister for School Education and Literacy, we were forced to write to the Prime Minister. This is the third time we are writing to the Prime Minister and we demand an inquiry into the same and also removal of Mr. Nagesh from the portfolio," Mr. Talikatte said.

Earlier, the Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka had written to the Prime Minister making allegations of corruption in the department.

Baseless, says Minister

Reacting to the allegations, Mr. Nagesh said, "RUPSA has made baseless allegations against me and the department. Everyone is free to write a complaint against anybody to the PMO. If they have any proof and documents, why didn't they lodge a complaint till now? We will take necessary action if there is proof."

Did Siddaramaiah call off Kodagu march following high command's nudge?

Party deemed the protest a risk ahead of the next year's Assembly elections

NAGESH PRABHU
BENGALURU

While the former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has called off 'Kodagu Chalo' programme in view of the prohibitory orders, sources in the Congress said the party high command and a section of party leaders in the State had opposed the march citing the sensitiveness of the district ahead of the 2023 Assembly elections and the risks involved.

Siddaramaiah

Sources in the party said Mr. Siddaramaiah called off the march apparently at the instructions of senior leaders of the party in Delhi. Moreover, the former Chief Minister had hurriedly announced the march without consultation with KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar, they added.

Letter to high command

In fact, before the cancellation of the march, S.A. Hussain, general secretary, KPCC, and loyalist of Mr. Shivakumar, had written to AICC president Sonia Gandhi, urging her to impress upon Mr. Siddaramaiah to call off the march stating that it is a communally sensitive district "which is a breeding ground for the fringe elements and political parties such as the SDPI and right-wing organisations."

Mr. Hussain, who was general secretary of the Kodagu district for nine years, said, "In the past, during the Tipu Jayanti celebration which was announced by our last government, the situation got out of control due to a protest in which Kuttappa succumbed to injuries by falling into a gorge which led to polarisation in the district and spread to the State. This was one of the reasons for our defeat in the 2018 Assembly elections".

The high command reportedly told Mr. Siddaramaiah to call off his march sensing that this would be a risk the party would be taking ahead of the elections if things went out of control during the protest.

Mr. Hussain said in his letter that "felicitations, humiliation, and accusations" are an integral part of every politician's public life. There have been instances where former Chief Ministers such as [late] R. Gundu Rao were attacked with stones in Sompet town in Kodagu. Former Chief Ministers late Ramakrishna Hegde and late N. Dharam Singh also were attacked in public in the State, he said.

Alternative programme

Instead of 'Kodagu Chalo', the KPCC general secretary suggested organising a massive public meeting wherein the party places before the people of Kodagu the achievements of the Congress government and also highlight the relief measures taken up by the erstwhile government led by Mr. Siddaramaiah.

He further said, "We can impress upon the people of Kodagu to compare the efforts and commitment of our Congress government during the last calamities with that of the present BJP dispensation."

The two MLAs of Kodagu district belong to the BJP.

Karjol: ₹12,752-cr. bills of contractors cleared

Minister counters charges of '40% commission'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Govind M. Karjol

Water Resources Minister Govind M. Karjol on Friday said the Basavaraj Bommai-led government had cleared pending bills of contractors worth ₹12,752 crore and there was no proof to substantiate the charge made by the Karnataka State Contractors' Association president Kempanna on commission in the execution of works.

At a press conference here, Mr. Karjol said Mr. Kempanna was a "sponsored person" of the Opposition Congress and he was provoked by the Congress to level baseless allegations against the government from the last one year.

Except Mr. Kempanna, no other contractor had made allegations of 40% commission against the government. Why have other contractors remained silent and not come out and made charges against the government, he demanded to know.

The government has cleared all pending bills of small, medium and big contractors, including pending bills worth ₹3,737 crore of the coalition government led by H.D. Kumaraswamy. Bills worth ₹2,158 crore of small tenders had been cleared, he said.

Claiming that all tender bids had been cleared transparently, Mr. Karjol said works of more than ₹1 lakh crore had been executed during 2020-21.

'Can govt. hold any exam without irregularities?'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The surfacing of alleged irregularities in the examination by Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (KPTCL) for recruitment of junior engineers has given more ammunition to the Opposition as it comes close on the heels of the recruitment scams for the posts of police sub-inspector (PSI), assistant professor and some posts in the Transport Department.

The former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said, "Can't this government hold any examination without irregularities?" Whenever the State government found itself becoming the target of public ire after the Karnataka State Contractors' Association alleged that they were forced to pay 40% commission in contracts, and over the alleged PSI recruitment scam, it sought to divert public attention by raking up issues such as hijab and lets loose its "riot squads" on the streets, he said.

Contending that lakhs of rupees had changed hands in the KPTCL recruitment scam, he claimed that Bluetooth devices had been used to carry out malpractices.

Veteran politician D.B. Chandre Gowda celebrates 86th birthday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Veteran Karnataka politician and former Minister D.B. Chandre Gowda on Friday celebrated his 86th birthday at his residence in Bengaluru. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai called on Mr. Gowda and wished him.

D.B. Chandre Gowda being greeted by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on his birthday in Bengaluru on Friday.

Mr. Gowda served as the Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, was a three-term MLA, an MLC, and a three-term member of the Lok Sabha.

He was elected to the Lok Sabha first time on the Congress ticket in 1971 and later in 1977. In 1978, he resigned to allow India Gandhi to enter the Lok Sabha from Chikkamagaluru constituency. He was elected to the Lok Sabha on the BJP ticket in 2009.

He also served as the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly and served as Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs. In his long political career, he served as a member of various political parties, including Janata Dal, Congress, and BJP.

Applications invited

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Centre for Global Languages, Bengaluru City University, has invited applications from students for Certificate-I, Certificate II (4-month course), diploma, higher diploma, and advance diploma (8-month courses) in French, German, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean languages for 2022-23.

The last date for admission is September 9 and with fine is September 15. For details, call 080-29572019/8904018883 or visit the centre on Bengaluru City University campus, P.K. Block, Palace Road, behind Central College.

ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಪದನಿಮಿತ್ತ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ,
ಕಛೇರಿ ವಿಳಾಸ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-60. ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ : egovbangaloresouth@gmail.com, Phone: 080-26705415
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಸಿ2/ಸ.ಶಿ.ಇ/ಹೊ.ಸಿ*/ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್/22/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.08.2022

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

2022-23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕಛೇರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ 5 ವಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಪ್ರೋಗ್ರಾಮರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಜೂನಿಯರ್ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಪ್ರೋಗ್ರಾಮ್, ಬೆಕ್ಕ ಸಹಾಯಕರು, ಡಾಟಾ ಎಂಟ್ರಿ ಆಪರೇಟರ್, ಗ್ರೂಪ್ 'ಡಿ' ನೌಕರರು ಒಟ್ಟು 24 ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಸೇವೆ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಮತ್ತು ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ (ಡ್ರಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಮೂಲಕ) ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **26.08.2022**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೌಲ್ಯ: ರೂ. **61,74,000/-**, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ. **1,23,500/-**, ಅಂದಾಜು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅವಧಿ: **12** ತಿಂಗಳು. ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **09.09.2022** ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ಹಾಗೂ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080-2670541 ನಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಪದನಿಮಿತ್ತ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಸ.ಶಿ.ಕ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.

ಜಾಹೀರಾತು/ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಸಂ/0977/2022-23

ಕೊರೋನಾ - ಇಂದಿನಿಂದ ಹರಡುವಿಕೆ, ಜಾಗ್ರತೆಯಿಂದ ಪರಿಣಾಮ, ನೋಟಕ್ಕೆ ದಾರಿದಿಂ-ನೋಟಕ್ಕೆದಿದ್ದೆಲ್ಲ
ಮಾಸ್ಕ್ ಧರಿಸಿ | 6 ಅಡಿ ದೈಹಿಕ ಅಂತರ ಪಾಲಿಸಿ | ಕೈಗಳ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division: Yadgir.
GSTIN:29BLR002252F1DR

No.EE/PWD/Divn/YDG/TS-1/e-Tender/2022-23/2067, Dated: 24.08.2022

Short Term e-Tender Notification

1) Details of works: On behalf of Governor of Karnataka as per KTTP Amendment 1999-2000 Act 2000 Standard Bid Document KW-3 & 4 Karnataka Public Works Department invites item Rate Tender by Two Cover System Through e-Procurement Portal from Eligible Agency/Contractors for following works pertaining to Yadgir Taluka-06, Shahapur Taluka-03 & Shorapur Taluka-06 Nos. Total 15 Nos of works. Under KKRDB Plan for the year 2022-23 the Work Indent No's are as follows, (1)154610, (2)154297, (3)154283, (4)154070, (5)154217, (6)154760, (7)154972, (8)154173, (9)154293, (10)154165, (11)154166, (12)155164, (13)154415, (14)154398 and (15)154164. 2) Estimate Cost: Minimum Rs 61.70 Lakhs and Maximum Rs.495.00 Lakhs. 3) Contractor Eligible Details: Class-3rd & Above (As per rule). 4) Tender Procesing Fee and EMD Details: Tender Fee as per e-proc and EMD Minimum Rs 1,03,600.00 and Maximum Rs.6,62,500.00 5) Date & Time for Pre-Bid Meeting: 29.08.2022 (11.30 hrs) 6) Date & Time for receipt of queries: 01.09.2022 (17.30 hrs) 7) Last Date & Time for submission of the tender in e-procurement portal 06.09.2022 (16.00 hrs) 8) Date & Time of Opening of the Technical Bid: 08.09.2022 (11.30 hrs) 9) Date & Time of Opening of the Financial Bid: 12.09.2022 (11.30 hrs) 10) For More Details Contact: Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division : Yadgir. 11) Website Address: www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division:Yadgir.

DIP.Yadagiri/215/MCA/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
(PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DEPTARTMENT)
Office of the Executive Engineer P.R.E. Division Bidar.

No: EE/PRED/BDR/TS-3/2022-23/ 1222 Date: 26-8-2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDERS

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers, for 08 works approved under various schemes as per KW-01, 03 and 04 in One and Two Cover System. Amount put to tender for the works are Minimum Rs. 8,75,078.84 (Rupees Eight Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Seventy Eight and paise eighty four only) & Maximum Rs. 167,61,973.85 (Rupees One Crore Sixty Seven Lakhs Sixty One Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Three and paise eighty five only) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Govt. of Kamataka Viz. http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Tenders must be submitted through e-procurement portal on or before 16.00 hours up to 15.09.2022. Technical Bid will be opened on 17.09.2022 & Financial Bid will be opened on 22.09.2022 respectively. Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.R.E. Division, Bidar.

DIPR/Bidar/203/MC&A/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division,
Yelahanka Zone, Bengaluru

e-Auction Notification No.: BBMP/EE(P.D)/PR/01/2022-23 Date: 25.08.2022

e-AUCTION NOTIFICATION - 4th Call

e-Auction of stalls constructed at Eastern portion of Hoysala Stadium in the limits of Ward No.: 04 of Yelahanka Satellite Town.

Sl. No.	Stall No.	Size (in Mtrs)	Area (in Sq. Mtrs)	Boundaries			
				East	West	North	South
1	1	3.65 x 3.45	12.59	Road	Stadium	Stall No.:02	Stadium Building
2	2	3.65 x 3.45	12.59	Road	Stadium	Stall No.:03	Stall No.:01
3	3	3.65 x 3.45	12.59	Road	Stadium	Stall No.:04	Stall No.:02
4	4	3.65 x 3.45	12.59	Road	Stadium	Stall No.:05	Stall No.:03
5	7	3.65 x 3.45	12.59	Road	Stadium	Stall No.:08	Stall No.:06
6	8	3.65 x 3.45	12.59	Road	Stadium	Stall No.:09	Stall No.:07

(1) Opening of e-Auction and Bidding starting Date: **29.08.2022**, Time **11:00 a.m.**
(2) Last date for participate in e-Auction: **09.09.2022**, Time **4:30 p.m.**
(3) Last date for closing of e-Auction: **13.09.2022**, Time **4:30 p.m.**
Starting Bid Rate for Sq.Mtr. **Rs. 371.00 per month.**
General Terms, Rules and Conditions of e-Auction:

(1) The person participating in auction must be Indian Citizen. **(2)** Address Proof should submit any one document mentioned below attested by Gazetted Officer / from Notary / Embassy Office. (a) Voter Identity Card (b) Vehicle Driving License (c) Passport (d) Special Identity (Aadhar). **(3)** PAN Number (Attested by Gazetted Officer / from Notary / in case of NRI should be from Embassy Office). **(4)** Identity of Photo (Attested by Gazetted Officer / from Notary / in case of NRI should be from Embassy Office). **(5)** Signature Pattern (Attested by Gazetted Officer / from Notary / in case of NRI should be from Embassy Office). **(6)** e-mail address. **(7)** Mobile Phone Number. **(8)** Landline Phone Number. **(9)** A partnership firm can participate in the auction. Thus the participating partnership firm must register their partnership firm in India before participating in the auction.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone, BBMP

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owner **Smt.B.R.USHA alias USHA MOORTHY** W/o Sri.R.P.Moorthy, residing at No.15/1, Surveyor Street, Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560004.

If any person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule property by the aforesaid owner, they are hereby called upon to file their objections in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 14 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing **Municipal No.15/1,** PID No.49-57-15/1,East to West 41 ft 2 Inches and North to South on the Eastern side 40 ft 9 Inches; on the Western side 40 ft 11 inches, together with a passage thereon, in all measuring 2125 Sq.ft, situated at Surveyor Street, Basavanagudi, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : House belonging to D.N.Rajashekar
West by : House belonging to H.K.Savithramma and H.K.Sethurama Rao
North by : Conservancy
South by : Property bearing No.15

Sd/- Goutam Chand S.F
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

SUNDARAM HOME

SUNDARAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
Regd. Office: No. 21, Patullos Road, Chennai-600002. Tel: 044-2852 1181
Corporate Office: "Sundaram Towers" 46, Whites Road, Chennai - 600014.
Tel: 044-2851 5267, Fax: 044-2858 2235, Email: corporateaffairs@sundaramhome.in
Website: www.sundaramhome.in CIN: U65922TN1999PLC042759

Sundaram Home Finance Limited has decided to close its operations at its existing Whitefield branch located at, Sundaram Home Finance Limited No. 295, 2nd Floor, Silver Square, White Field Main Road, Bengaluru – 560 066. on 28th November 2022. Customers/Depositors of this branch will be served by our new office at No. 775/A, 1st Floor, Sri Venkateswara Nilaya, 9th A Main Road, 1st Stage, Indiranagar, (Off 100 feet road), Bangalore – 560038. with effect from **29th November 2022.**

for SUNDARAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
S. Sridhar
Chief Financial Officer

Place: Chennai
Date: 27/08/2022

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರವಾರ

ನಂ: ಕಾನಿಇ/ಲೋ.ಇ.ವಿ/ಎ.ಬಿ-2/ಟೆಂದಾ-15/2022-23/1805 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.08.2022

ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್)

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ ಇವರಿಂದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವದು. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಅರ್ಹರಾಗಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು (ಕೆಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-4) ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಪರಿಮಾಣಗಳನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸುವದು.

(1) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **26.09.2022 16.30 ಗಂಟೆ** ವರೆಗೆ (2) ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **27.09.2022 16.30 ಗಂಟೆ** ವರೆಗೆ (3) ಟೆಂಡರಿನ ಅಂಶಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **28.09.2022 17.00 ಗಂಟೆ** ವರೆಗೆ (4) ಟೆಂಡರಿನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **30.09.2022 17.00 ಗಂಟೆ** ವರೆಗೆ

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ **NABARD RIDF-XXVIII.** ಪರ್ಸ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್: (1) **155421**

(ಕೆಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-4) ರಲ್ಲಿನ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ **e-proc** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾದ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂದರೆ **"eproc.karnataka.gov.in"** ನೋಡಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ help desk Bangalore (Phone No. 918025501216 & 918025501227) ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

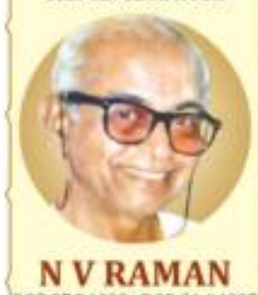
ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕಾರವಾರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ

DIPR/ADK/KDC/436/22-23 dt 24.08.2022

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

BIRTH CENTENARY

IN FOND BIRTH CENTENARY REMEMBRANCE



N V RAMAN
DOB 27.8.1922 - DOD 21.6.1997

Author, Diplomat, born leader, endearing family man and most importantly loving and dedicated father

Annapurna, Shailendra, Rajesh, Aditi, Girija, Krishnan, Puja, Ram, Jayashree, Sumana, Vishakha, Rajagopalan, Myna, Anuradha, Chandra, Ramamurthy, Uma, Purna, Arun and sisters' families

SC raises Karnataka iron ore mining ceiling limit

'Ecology conservation must go hand-in-hand with development'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday raised the ceiling limit of iron ore mining for Ballari, Chitradurga, and Tumakuru districts in Karnataka, saying conservation of the ecology and environment must go hand-in-hand with the spirit of economic development.

The apex court raised the ceiling limit of iron ore mining from 28 MMT to 35 MMT for Ballari district, and from 7 MMT to 15 MMT for Chitradurga and Tumakuru districts.

"Conservation of the ecology and the environment must go hand-in-hand with the spirit of economic development and the fine balance between the two goals is what is sought to be achieved even now," a Bench headed by Chief Justice N.V. Ramana said.

The Bench, also comprising of Justices Hima Kohli and C.T. Ravikumar, passed the order on pleas seeking lifting of the ceiling limits of iron ore mining in these districts.

It referred to the May 20, 2022 order passed by the apex court which had granted relief in the sale and export of iron ore in these districts and had left open the question of lifting or relaxation of the ceiling limit for production of iron ore there.

CEC report

The Bench referred to the history of ceiling limits on the production of iron ore through court orders and noted that on July 29, 2011, and August 26, 2011, the apex court had imposed a ban on mining in these districts based on the report of the Centrally-Empowered Committee (CEC). It said in December 2017, the court had permitted to increase the ceiling cap from 25 MMT to 28 MMT in Ballari district and from 5 MMT to 7 MMT for Chitradurga and Tumakuru districts, based on the July 14, 2017, report of the CEC.

The CEC and the State agree that the changed situation on the ground warrants a complete removal of ceiling limits, says SC.

"In 2017, this court was of the view that the situation had vastly changed in Karnataka and had therefore allowed an increase in the ceiling limit. We are now in the year 2022," the apex court said.

'Situation is same'

The Bench said it can be no one's case that the situation subsisting in Karnataka currently is the same as had existed when the matter was first taken up or when the court had passed the order in 2017, relaxing the ceiling limit to some extent.

"This is also clear from the changed stance of Karnataka and the CEC before this court. In 2017, the CEC had recommended a cumulative increase in the ceiling limit up to 5 MMT, whereas now, the CEC supports the view that the ceiling limit need not continue," it observed.

The Bench noted that in 2017, Karnataka had submitted before it that the ceiling limit may be raised to 40 MMT, and gradually increased later to 50 MMT. "However, the State is now in favour of a complete removal of the ceiling limit," it said.

The top court said it appeared that the CEC, the State, the Ministry of Steel, Karnataka Iron and Steel Manufacturers Association, and mining lease-holders are all "*ad idem*" (in agreement) that the changed situation on ground warrants a complete removal of ceiling limits that were imposed by the court.

The Bench noted that the monitoring committee had highlighted a separate concern regarding the infrastructural incapacity to transport iron ore excavated if the ceiling limits were to be raised.

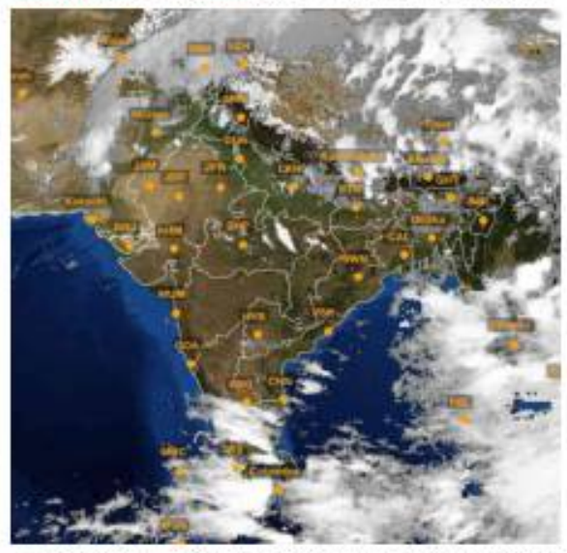
It said advocate Prashant Bhushan appearing for the original petitioner had in principle objected to the request for the lifting of the ceiling limit.

The Bench said the concerns of the original petitioner and the monitoring committee merited due consideration.

"Much good work has been done in Karnataka, because of the action initiated by the original petitioner and the subsequent judicial interventions by this court. In fact, it is this progress made steadily over the past decade that weighed with this court to even consider the relief regarding the raising of the ceiling limit sought by the present applicants," the court said.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1	35.0	28.2	Kozhikode	2	30.2	24.1
Ahmedabad	1	32.9	24.7	Kurnool	5	33.0	24.6
Aizawl	–	27.2	21.5	Lucknow	9	34.5	26.4
Allahabad	–	33.5	26.6	Madurai	0.6	34.7	24.1
Bengaluru	41.4	27.2	20.3	Mangaluru	2.6	28.8	24.1
Bhopal	92	29.9	22.4	Mumbai	–	30.8	25.6
Bhubaneswar	–	33.8	25.8	Mysuru	16	30.2	20.6
Chandigarh	–	35.1	27.6	New Delhi	–	35.1	25.8
Chennai	0.9	34.1	25.7	Patna	–	33.6	27.7
Coimbatore	42	32.4	22.0	Port Blair	16	29.9	24.7
Dehradun	–	34.1	24.4	Puducherry	10.4	34.2	23.8
Gangtok	1	24.8	18.5	Pune	–	30.5	21.2
Goa	0.2	31.0	24.5	Raipur	43	32.3	24.2
Guwahati	–	36.2	27.8	Ranchi	–	31.2	23.5
Hubballi	–	29.0	21.0	Shillong	9	25.5	16.8
Hyderabad	–	33.4	23.8	Shimla	0.5	27.0	19.6
Imphal	–	30.2	22.8	Srinagar	0.7	26.0	18.7
Jaipur	0.2	32.5	23.5	Thiruvananthapuram	0.2	30.2	23.8
Kochi	–	28.2	24.8	Tiruchi	2	35.7	24.5
Kohima	3	25.8	17.6	Vijayawada	15	35.4	24.5
Kolkata	–	35.3	27.0	Visakhapatnam	–	34.4	26.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — Yesterday

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	53	40	106	48	78	
Bengaluru	7	14	55	71	72	
Chennai	42	34	28	40	67	
Delhi	24	73	62	108	265	
Hyderabad	17	2	165	50	79	
Kolkata	7	13	20	52	84	
Lucknow	12	44	95	51	57	
Mumbai	26	13	56	27	140	
Pune	–	12	33	–	–	
Visakhapatnam	11	41	24	60	96	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Buxar, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 281 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Gangtok, Sikkim recorded a healthy AQI score of 20

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Azad's exit will strengthen communal forces: Kharge

'He has run away at a crucial time'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha M. Mallikarjun Kharge has expressed regret over veteran leader and former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad quitting the Congress and said this would help communal forces gain strength.

Mr. Kharge accused Mr. Azad of "running away" at a crucial time when the party was fighting the ideology of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and criticised him for being "disloyal" to the party that kept him in power for four decades.

Mr. Kharge also questioned the timing of Mr. Azad's resignation when party leader Rahul Gandhi, who is set to launch the Bharat Jodo Yatra next month for uniting the people of the country. Mr. Azad's resignation would weaken the fight against the communal forces, Mr. Kharge said at a press release.

'Zero without Congress'

In Bengaluru, KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar on Friday said Mr. Azad had betrayed the "mother Congress" and condemned his statements criticising the functioning of the members of the Gandhi family, including Mr. Gandhi.

"Mr. Azad is zero without the Congress," the State Congress chief said. "Mrs. (Sonia) Gandhi had given you (Mr. Azad) everything available in the Congress. What more position is left to give you for your experience?" Mr. Shivakumar asked.

"Mr. Azad was the only leader in the party who enjoyed all positions and powers. He was the Youth Congress president, general secretary, MP, Leader of the Opposition, Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, and Union Minister," he said.

I am not quitting Cong.: Muniyappa

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Veteran Congress leader K.H. Muniyappa on Friday scotched rumours of quitting the party.

The former Union Minister had called on Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Health Minister K. Sudhakar earlier in the day, fuelling rumours that he was on the way to quitting the Congress. Later, to clear the confusion, Mr. Muniyappa told presspersons that he met the Chief Minister to discuss issues related to granting of 18 acres to Adi Jambava temple and mutt at Gudibande in Chickballapur district.

'ACB was set up after bribery racket in ex-Lokayukta's office'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday said his government constituted the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) after the son of then Lokayukta was caught running a bribery racket. Recently, the High Court of Karnataka abolished the ACB.

Participating in a 'Meet the Press' programme organised by Mysuru District Journalists' Association (MDJA) here, Mr. Siddaramaiah said the son of the former Lokayukta Y. Bhaskar Rao was involved in a bribery racket, forcing the then government to constitute a separate wing for investigation. Such a separate investigation wing for the anti-corruption ombudsman exists in many other States in India, including Gujarat.

He had welcomed the High Court's order setting aside constitution of the ACB and restoring the power of the Lokayukta police to probe graft cases against public servants.

Alleging financial mismanagement, Mr. Siddaramaiah said the State government had gone into a revenue deficit.

Karnataka HC imposes ₹10 lakh cost on Intel

'It rushed to court hastily against probe ordered by competition watchdog'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has imposed a cost of ₹10 lakh on Intel Technology India Pvt. Ltd. and Intel Corporation, U.S., for hastily rushing to the court against a decision of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to investigate their 'India-specific warranty policy' for boxed microprocessors.

"The petitioners hastily rushed to this court and unjustifiably secured an interim order that interdicted an inquiry of preliminary nature, for all these years, to the enormous prejudice of public interest," the court said.

'Abortive attempt'

"This writ petition, besides being premature and absolutely devoid of merits, is an abortive attempt by the petitioners to scuttle the innocuous statutory proceedings of the commission. Therefore, this is a fit case for dismissal with exemplary costs," Justice Krishna S. Dixit has said in his order while directing the petitioner to pay the cost to the CCI within six weeks.

The CCI on August 9, 2019 directed its Director-General to conduct an investigation to find out whether Intel's warranty policy has potentially resulted in denial of market access to parallel importers and resellers of boxed microprocessors for desktop and laptop personal computers, and the risk of higher pricing for the such microprocessors in India.

The competition watchdog had issued the direction on a complaint lodged by Matric Info Systems Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi. It was complained that the 'India-specific warranty policy' was in contravention of sections 3 and 4 of the Competition Act, 2002, they were refusing to provide the warranty in India for boxed microprocessors which were imported from authorised sources abroad by restricting warranty for microprocessors purchased only from an authorised Indian distributor of Intel within India.

However, the investigation could not proceed due to the stay granted by the High Court in November 2019.

Meanwhile, the court said it hoped and expected that the long-pending investigation shall be accomplished at the earliest.

Decisions of apex court

Citing various decisions of the apex court on the CCI's power to hold investigation through its D-G, the High Court said the petitioners had failed to demonstrate that the CCI's decision was arbitrary and ureasonable.

"There may be damage to person, property or reputation but there is no legal injury to complain of. If the petitioners' contention of 'grave consequences' is accepted, then almost invariably, no preliminary inquiry at the hands of the commission or investigation at the hands of the Director-General can be undertaken and that would render the very scheme of section 26 of the Act virtually *otiose*," the court observed.

Joining hands: Students picking up trash as part of the beach clean-up drive organised by the Andhra Pradesh government along with U.S.-based 'Parley for the Oceans' in Visakhapatnam on Friday. • K.R. DEEPAK

A.P. conducts Mega Beach Clean-up drive

22,000 volunteers take part; 76 tonnes of waste cleared on the 28-km stretch

STAFF REPORTER
VISAKHAPATNAM

About 76 tonnes of wastes, including plastic, were cleared during a 'Mega Beach Clean-up' drive conducted by the Andhra Pradesh government in association with U.S.-based 'Parley for the Oceans' and Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) in Visakhapatnam, on Friday.

According to the GVMC officials, over 22,000 volunteers took part in the drive, making it the biggest beach clean-up drive ever.

The State government has entered the Wonder Book of Records by organising the biggest clean-up drive ever.

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy presented the award to MAUD Minister Audimulapu Suresh and GVMC Commissioner G. Lakshmisha.

The 28-km coastal stretch between Naval Costal Battery to Bheemunipatnam witnessed scores of people from all ages taking part enthusiastically to clear the wastes on the shore. Employees from various government departments, Eastern Naval Command, Indian Coast Guard, NGOs, Resident Welfare Association (RWAs), Visakhapatnam Port Authority and general public attended the programme. College students seemed to have played a significant role in the drive.

The GVMC had arranged boards at all the 40 identified locations. The ANMs, ASHA workers were seen providing gloves, masks and gunny bags on their arrival.

Groups of students from several colleges toiled hard clearing heaps of debris at Lawsons Bay Beach. The trash included coconut shells, liquor bottles, thermocole sheets and clothes.

The Indian Naval personnel along with their families from various units of Eastern Naval Command participated in the mega clean-up drive near the fishing harbour and Bheemuniupatnam beaches.

All the Principal Officers of Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA), along with officers and employees participated in the programme.

A.P. signs MoU with 'Parley for the Oceans'

STAFF REPORTER
VISAKHAPATNAM

The Andhra Pradesh government has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S.-based 'Parley for the Oceans' on plastic waste management in the State.

The MoU was signed by Minister for Municipal Administration & Urban Development A. Suresh, Principal Secretary Y. Sri Lakshmi and Founder of 'Parley for the Oceans' Cyrill Gutsch on Friday.

It was exchanged in the presence of Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, during a programme organised at the AU Convention Centre here.

Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet will be partnering the project.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Reddy said as part of the MoU, ₹16,000 crore investment was expected for Andhra Pradesh in the next six years. Job for about 20,000 people would be generated with a minimum of ₹16,000 salary per month.

Kerala High Court wants clampdown on illegal religious places

Be vigilant while giving nod, govt. told

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court has asked the Chief Secretary and the State Police Chief to issue orders to prevent the illegal functioning of religious places and prayer halls.

No religious places and prayer halls should be allowed to function without obtaining permission from the competent authorities, and all such illegal halls and religious places should be shut down, Justice P. V. Kunhikrishnan said in the order.

Dismissing a petition filed by Noorul Islam Samskarika Sangham, Thottekkad, Amarambalam, seeking to change a commercial building in its possession into a Muslim place of worship, the court asked the State authorities to consider the applications to start religious places and prayer halls strictly and issue the approval only in appropriate cases.

The Chief Secretary should issue a circular prohibiting the change of category of a building to a religious place/ prayer hall except in inevitable circumstances and only in the rarest of rare cases. A report from the police and intelligence wing ascertaining the ground realities of that particular place should be obtained during the process, the court directed.

The court noted that there were 36 mosques within the vicinity of the commercial building of the petitioner. There was no need for another mosque in that vicinity and the devotees could go to the nearby mosques.

Though Article 26 (a) of the Constitution states that subject to the public order, morality and health, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes, it does not mean that they can construct religious places in every nook and corner of the country, the court observed.

Kerala has 10 times higher number of religious structures than the total number of villages, says HC.

The State has 10 times higher number of religious structures than the total number of its villages.

The number of places of worship in the State is almost 3.5 times higher than the number of hospitals. If any religious places and prayer halls are allowed in Kerala without any guidelines, there will be no place for the citizens to reside. The government and the local bodies should be vigilant while granting permission for religious places and prayer halls, the court directed.

While considering the change of occupancy of existing buildings from one category to the category of religious places, rejection should be the rule. If every devotee of the different religions start constructing religious places and prayer halls near their residence, the State will face serious consequences, including communal disharmony, the court felt.

Shadow over Soren

He should resign as CM and not continue in the hope of getting elected within six months

Uncertainty looms large over Hemant Soren's continuation as Jharkhand Chief Minister as he is likely to be disqualified by the Governor as Member of the Legislative Assembly; the Governor has received the Election Commission of India's opinion on the question. Technically speaking, Mr. Soren could remain in the post for up to six months without being an MLA. He could also get elected in the meantime. But that technicality apart, it is a huge loss of face for him and the parties that form the ruling coalition in Jharkhand, i.e., the JMM, the Congress, and the RJD. The case against him has its roots in a mining lease that he gave himself as a Minister for Mines in 2021. The BJP complained to the Governor on February 11, 2022, that this act was in violation of Section 9(A) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. The Governor referred the complaint to the Election Commission of India (ECI) for its opinion, as required by law, on March 28. On August 25, the ECI wrote to the Governor that Mr. Soren could be disqualified under Section 9(A). The awarding of a mining lease to himself was a brazen act of self-service, misuse of office and breach of people's trust. One cannot also not take note of the innocence of his thought that such a transparent act of corruption would go unnoticed or unpunished – reminiscent of his father Shibu Soren going to a bank and depositing the cash he had received as bribe.

Mr. Soren's agonies may not end with disqualification. Two PILs against him are pending in the Jharkhand High Court which seek a probe into the alleged allotment of mining lease for a stone quarry in a 0.88-acre land parcel in the Angara Block of Ranchi and the alleged laundering of money via some shell companies said to be linked to his family members. On June 3, the High Court accepted the maintainability of the PILs, holding that they did not suffer from any anomaly. In separate pleas, the High Court's decision was challenged by the Chief Minister and the State government in the Supreme Court, which on August 17 reserved its order in the matter and stayed the High Court proceedings. The BJP is waiting in the wings to upend the Jharkhand government, and has tasted blood. The arrest in July of three Jharkhand Congress MLAs in West Bengal with huge amounts of money they had allegedly received to defect was a smoking gun. Cornered by proceedings of disqualification as an MLA and potentially facing a corruption investigation, Mr. Soren will have diminished authority over the MLAs of the alliance. The honourable thing for him to do in this instance of disqualification would be to resign as Chief Minister. His absence from the central seat of power in the State will be a test for the alliance and its government.

Murder in the sewer

Deaths during manual cleaning of sewage are unacceptable

All human lives are precious, but, in practice, some are seen as less precious than others. Despite the efforts of courts and governments, law and enforcement have been unable to keep a certain category of workers out of harm's way: those who are engaged in sewage cleaning. While the job itself is dangerous, as several other human pursuits are, sewage cleaning involves working with human excreta, and cannot be seen without invoking the concept of dignity of labour. To allot the task of removing excreta and cleaning sewers to humans when machines are able to do the work is a gross violation of rights. It is in this context that Tamil Nadu's recent move to notify the rules of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, though belated, must be seen. While manual 'scavenging' is completely prohibited, the rules allow manual cleaning, in specific conditions where mechanical equipment cannot be deployed to fix the problem, or when it is absolutely necessary to have human intervention, after stating the valid reasons for allowing such a process to take place. But, more importantly, it specifies a long list of protective devices and gear that any person engaged to clean a sewer or a septic tank must be provided, including air line breathing apparatus, air line respirator, air purifier gas mask, a device for artificial respiration, mask and breathing apparatus. Besides this, chlorine masks, emergency medical oxygen resuscitator kit, gas monitor for gases, hydraulic devices, and first aid will have to be provided by the employer. The list is not limited to those devices mentioned. Regular maintenance of the equipment and devices has also been mandated by the rules. Naturally, all workers must be fitted out in the safety gear before they enter the sewer line.

The practice of manual cleaning of septic tanks and sewers has been, and will always be, as long as it exists, a serious concern in any country sworn to humane treatment of all citizens. While quibbling has dominated discussions about the actual number of deaths due to manual scavenging, government-acknowledged deaths from manual cleaning of sewers and septic tanks are shocking enough. A total of 971 people lost their lives while cleaning sewers or septic tanks since 1993, the year the law prohibiting employment of manual scavengers was enacted, according to the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry. Tamil Nadu is among the top States in the list. Since the causes of deaths while cleaning sewers and septic tanks are predictable – noxious gases – not taking measures to prevent those deaths would be criminal. Proper implementation of the rules, and adequate monitoring are absolutely essential. Simultaneously, all efforts must be taken, within existing schemes, to provide compensation to the family members of those who have died, and to provide them a way out of the profession, if they so wish.

A draconian law that needs to disappear

The north-east needs to be freed from the net of AFSPA, as it has subsumed constitutional rights with impunity

M.P. NATHANAEL

The statement made by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, in April this year, to the people of the North-east to the effect that the Government intends withdrawing the much-dreaded Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act 1958, or AFSPA, completely from the region – this follows its partial withdrawal from parts of Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur in March this year – could spell tidings for the denizens of these States. The Prime Minister was addressing a 'Peace, Unity and Development' rally in Diphu in Assam's Karbi Anglong district. In the north-east, Nagaland has largely borne the brunt of this draconian law after it was imposed in the late 1950s when insurgency raised its head in the State.

Roots in the Raj

The genesis of the law can be traced to the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Ordinance 1942 which was enacted by the British to subjugate the rebels in the country during the Quit India movement, particularly in Assam and Bengal in October 1942. The law continues to be enforced in its new format as the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act 1958.

Indubitably, the need for the law was required in the 1950s when Naga insurgents resorted to large-scale violence. Hundreds of Indian Army soldiers, central and State paramilitary personnel were either killed or injured in ambushes that had been meticulously planned and launched by the insurgents. Informers of the security forces were eliminated or disabled.

Nagaland, other aberrations

While there was some semblance of peace having been restored after the Shillong Peace Accord with the Naga insurgents in 1975, the situation took an ugly turn after the breakaway group led by Isak Chishi Swu and Thuingaleng Muivah formed the Nationalist Socialist Council of Nagalim (Isak-Muivah), better known as the NSCN(I-M), in January 1980, and resorted to large-scale violence across the States of Nagaland and Manipur. Thuingaleng Muivah is a Tangkhul Naga from Ukhrul district of Manipur while Isak Chishi Swu was a Sumi Naga from Zunehboto in Nagaland. Isak Chishi Swu died in June 2016 after the Naga Framework Agreement had been signed between the Government and the NSCN (I-M) in August 2015. It is believed that the agreement was rushed through given Isak Swu's health condition. The agreement has been hanging fire since then as the Government has not agreed to permit a separate flag and constitution for Nagaland which the NSCN (I-M) is determined to have.

A generation has lived with AFSPA in Manipur and Nagaland. Residents in these States have been victims of the aberrations committed by security forces for decades. While AFSPA gives sweeping powers to the security forces to shoot and kill anyone on suspicion and even search or arrest any person without warrant, no prosecution against them is possible for any wrongdoing without the previous sanction of the Central government. While the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Ordinance 1942, authorised "Any officer not below the rank of Captain in (the Indian) Military forces... to use such force as may be necessary, even to the causing death against any person...", AFSPA 1958 empowers even a non-commissioned officer (may be a Lance Naik, a Naik or Havildar) to "fire upon or otherwise use force; even to the causing of death"; no prosecution against them is possible without the consent of the Central Government.

K. MURALI KUMAR

It is the consent from the Central government that is delaying any further action being taken against the commandos of the Army's 21 Para (Special Forces) who killed six locals initially in a case of mistaken identity in Mon district of Nagaland on December 4, 2021. The incident led to a riotous situation in which more persons, including an Assam Rifles jawan, were killed. Unconfirmed reports put the civilian death toll at 17.

Court's stand

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court of India passed an interim order recently "staying further proceedings pursuant to FIR No.27 of 2021/ Final Report of the Special Investigation Team [SIT]/Chargesheet," on a petition filed by the wives of the commandos found guilty by the SIT.

Armed with unbridled power, aberrations by security forces operating in the States are bound to take place. When the Extrajudicial Execution Victim Families' Association Manipur (EEVFAM) approached the top court in 2012 to have 1,528 cases of alleged fake encounters investigated through the Central Bureau of Investigation (*Extra Judicial Execution Victim Families Association (EEVFAM) vs Union of India & Anr.*), it was found that the first six cases investigated were indeed fake encounters. This prompted the Court to conclude that the veracity of the allegations made by the Association was beyond suspicion. Having come under the scanner, the AFSPA drew critical comments from the Supreme Court.

Despised by every citizen of the States where it has been in force, AFSPA was not withdrawn despite their demands. The very basic tenets of democracy which espouse the principles "of the people, by the people and for the people" have stood negated. No section of society would ever allow itself to be subjected to a law that is as draconian as AFSPA, which in effect curbs the liberty and the rights of the people as enshrined in the Constitution – a Constitution that is held sacrosanct by the nation.

Resistance to a rescinding

Efforts made in the past to rescind the law have met with failure. The iron lady of Manipur, Irom Chanu Sharmila, went on a 16-year long hunger strike starting from November 2000. Hailed as a heroine for nearly two decades, she fell from glory when people were disapproving of her breaking the fast. On being asked to comment on the withdrawal of AFSPA in several parts of Manipur, Assam and Nagaland, she was of the opinion that this was a new beginning and a result of decades-long fight.

The Justice B.P. Jeevan Reddy Commission that was tasked with reviewing the provisions of AFSPA submitted its report on June 6, 2005 with the recommendation that AFSPA be withdrawn. Surprisingly, it had suggested making amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) to achieve the purpose of AFSPA. The report was subsequently shelved.

Former Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram was of the firm opinion that AFSPA should be withdrawn. But stiff resistance from the Defence Ministry which was headed by A.K. Antony scuttled the proposal. The Indian Army offered stiff opposition to any proposal to do away with the much-detested law.

There needs to be a review

The present dispensation at the Centre has been hailed for its bold decision to rescind the law as the Army would have still offered resistance to its withdrawal. It must be noted that at a function in Guwahati on April 23, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said that all three wings of the defence forces were in favour of the removal of AFSPA from the Northeast and Jammu and Kashmir, but the act remained in place "due to the situation". In Nagaland, AFSPA has been removed from the jurisdiction of 15 police stations in seven districts, while in Assam, it has been removed completely from 23 districts; one district will be covered partially under the Act. In Manipur, 15 police station areas of six districts will be excluded. However, there needs to be a comprehensive and serious periodical review undertaken by the Centre till the entire North-east is freed from the tentacles of AFSPA.

Investigations into the 1,528 alleged fake encounters also need to be fast tracked and taken to their logical conclusion. If necessary, there needs to be incarceration of the guilty, thereby sending out a clear message that those who murder under the cloak of the uniform of the security forces cannot expect to go scot free if there are violations.

M.P. Nathanael was Inspector General of Police, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

Puttaswamy and the fading promise of a right

Five years after the crucial judgment on the right to privacy, the ground reality is an eye-opener

KARAN SAINI

August 24 has passed, marking five years since a nine-judge Bench of the Supreme Court of India delivered a crucial judgment in the case of *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (retd.) vs Union of India* (2017). The judgment delivered on that date formally recognised the right to privacy as being a fundamental right stemming from the right to life and personal liberty, guaranteed under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. The Bench also held that while the right to privacy is intrinsic to an individual's ability to exercise bodily autonomy, it is still not an "absolute right" in and of itself, placing limitations in a manner similar to those placed on the right to free speech and expression.

An erosion

Five years later, however, the once eventual-beneficiaries of the agency that the recognition of the fundamental right had promised may realise that the order delivered as part of the judgment has not been upheld in letter or in practice. For example, one can consider the nature of the relationship that is currently shared among consumers and companies. If one looks at how the negotiation of privacy is placed now, they would realise that not much changed following the formal recognition of the right to privacy. The Personal Data Protection Bill, 2021, which had been in the offing for quite some time now (despite how flawed it may have been) was withdrawn earlier this month after an unnecessarily long period of stagnation.

Personal data for a price

Meanwhile, the ground reality for the citizenry has not changed much either. Data security breaches which result in the loss and theft of personal, sensitive data have not reduced in terms of measurable frequency or their impact. Even worse, as of today, any person or business within and outside India is still in a position where, for a slight bargain, they can procure the personal information for a vast majority of the people, categorised and labelled neatly wherever possible, for use and consumption.

Data concerning the scale and nature described here is used most often by some legitimate advertising agencies, unscrupulous telemarketing firms, and cyber criminals. Brokers of such data have in fact become so brazen where they have taken to listing their goods for sale on mainstream e-commerce platforms. This may be done in a bid to reach more customers who can discover and subsequently purchase the data they provide, but perhaps also in an attempt to lend some kind of legitimacy to the unethical and possibly illegal nature of their trade. This *status quo* leaves the general populace open to a range of harm in the form of elaborate phishing attacks and financial scams aided by the attacker's access to personal information, as well as other harmful activities which rely on the attacker possessing key bits of information about an individual.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

'Spying' from above

While the threat model for a general user of the Internet in India may only comprise non-state actors (such as cyber criminals and unscrupulous businesses), individuals with certain political and intellectual affinities however have found themselves worrying about the capabilities of the Government in this regard; and rightly so, as far as the security and integrity of their electronic devices are concerned.

An investigation in January 2022 by *The New York Times* offered some credence to the debate and outcry that had existed around the alleged use of the Pegasus spyware in India. The investigation revealed that the Indian government had purchased access to the Pegasus spyware suite in 2017 as part of a roughly $2 billion acquisition deal for weapons and miscellaneous surveillance gear from Israel. The alarming revelations and the planting incriminating evidence in at least one case, targeting Indian nationals (alleged to have been carried out by the Government of India) reveals a blatant disregard for any jurisprudential significance the Puttaswamy judgment might have been thought to carry.

Other 'transgressions'

The recent interventions by the Government which aim to restrict Indian nationals from subscribing to and accessing VPN services shows a similar disregard, too. Summarily, the Government has demanded that VPN service providers – most of which operate in jurisdictions outside of India – start collecting and maintaining KYC records on Indian nationals who seek to avail their services.

The kind of information requested to be collected and stored includes general identifiers such as full name, phone number, home address, and more (information which generally is not sought by VPN service providers, and which may only be validated by a potential customer having to furnish valid identity documents to a given service provider), along with a small box asking for the "reason" for which an individual sought access to the VPN service. The justification provided by the Government for the request to collect and furnish data predictably begins and ends with a mention of the words "national security".

While it need not even be said that VPN services in and of themselves do not enable or significantly further criminal activity in a way where such a response would be warranted, the Government's position demonstrates that it is not above placing hindrances in an individual's effort to exercise their fundamental right to privacy, of which informational privacy is a part. However, this should not be surprising given other privacy-infringing transgressions, and considering that the initial position, argued by the then Attorney General was that "the right of privacy may at best be a common law right, but not a fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution".

In light of all of this, five years later, it can be said confidently that the Puttaswamy judgment has missed the mark quite spectacularly for the objective that was sought, and that it represents a foregone opportunity to protect the rights of Indian citizens while ensuring all of the checks and balances necessary to prevent Government overreach and abuse of power.

Karan Saini is an independent security researcher and public interest technologist. He is presently a Technology Fellow at Bellingcat

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Spyware issue

For the past few days we have been reading about Pegasus and how 'malware' has been found in five phones, but of there no proof of it being Pegasus. Experts and the highest court in the land are dealing with the matter. But I have a simple question. Was Pegasus purchased by the Government? And the answer from the Government counsel should be either a yes or a no. The firm that made the software has categorically stated that it sells the software only to governments.

DEEPAK DAS,
Jaipur, Rajasthan

■ From the data security perspective of an individual and the nation, the threats posed by malware cannot be underestimated. Hence, even if there is no proof establishing that the malware in question is Pegasus, the detection is still cause for grave concern. The Government ought to have extended its full cooperation to the Supreme Court-appointed "Pegasus technical committee". It is important to safeguard the digital security of our nation from 'foreign powers'. By not making things clear, the Government has missed a golden opportunity to alter the general perception of its role in the spyware issue.

A. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

■ That the Central government did not cooperate with the investigation is not a surprise. Even though the digital forensic findings remain inconclusive, the development is unlikely to allay fears of sophisticated hacking and the continued use of illegal tactics. The deployment of new tools and technologies in a manner that compromises the rights of citizens is a serious issue. The least the Government can do now is to implement the recommendations that try and ensure a safer digital environment.

N. SADHASIVA REDDY,
Bengaluru

An aberration

It is shocking how 11 convicts involved in gang rape and murder are being treated like heroes by the state. Even if we leave out the 'relevant clause' which ensured their remission, why is the state intent on glorifying them? If a law fails to show society the correct way, it will only end up causing more harm than good. We wait for the Supreme Court of India to set things right.

MADHUSREE GUHA,
Kolkata

■ The release of the 11 convicts stirs up images of horror and of gruesome and heartless acts even after 20 years making our hearts bleed and causing us to bow our heads in shame. The 11 men were all given a ceremonial welcome. None of them had even a trace of remorse on their faces. To see them receiving the 'honours' done to them was very disturbing . It was a day the survivors of the horrific crime lost their independence and right to live in dignity and safety.

RAMEEZA A. RASHEED,
Chennai

Mother Teresa

August 26, 2022 marked the birth anniversary of Mother Teresa. Over two decades have gone since the passing of Mother Teresa but one cannot forget her greatness that is derived not just from the strength of her intellect but also the great power and love she had in her heart. Her mission – of unconditional care and self-sacrifice – still lives on. "The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted;" was one of her more famous lines. The world must remember this.

R. SIVAKUMAR,
Chennai

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

Late correction: In a Sunday Magazine story titled "The elusive amrita" (Aug. 14, 2022), the reference to Durvasa *insulting* the hedonistic Indra should be corrected to *cursing*.

It is the policy of The Hindu to correct significant errors as soon as possible. Please specify the edition (place of publication), date and page. The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300 (11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday); Fax: +91-44-28552963; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in; Mail: Readers' Editor, The Hindu, Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860 Anna Salai, Chennai 600 002, India. All communication must carry the full postal address and telephone number. No personal visits. The Terms of Reference for the Readers' Editor are on www.thehindu.com

The great Godavari floods

People living along the mighty river in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have faced three floods in the last two months. **T. Appala Naidu**, **P. Sridhar** and **B. Chandrashekhar** report on the recurrent floods, logistics of irrigation dams, and concerns about relief and rehabilitation

Residents marooned in Sunnambatti in Dummugudem mandal of Bhadradri Kothagudem district leave their homes by boat. (Below): The water level in the temple town of Bhadrachalam in Bhadradri Kothagudem district of Telangana reached the highest level since 1986. • G.N. RAO

In the last week of June, Kunja Sai Kumar, a farmer belonging to the Koya tribe, was jubilant as he sat with the 160 families of his community in Mukunuru village for a dinner. The village is situated on the banks of the Sabari river, a tributary of the mighty Godavari. The Koyas sang songs of prayer for a good harvest in Mukunuru, situated in the Alluri Sitharama Raju district of Andhra Pradesh. The men completed all the rituals mandated for bringing down the curtains on the three-day Bhumi Puja, celebrated to mark the commencement of the agriculture season in July. Paddy, sesame, pulses and chilli are the major crops grown in Mukunuru and its surrounding areas. In summer, the farmers earn their income by selling sweet-smelling mahua flowers and nuts collected from the forest.

Their prayers went unanswered. Within a fortnight, the Koyas turned sombre as the Godavari, in all its rage, submerged their crops, fields, homes, and hopes as early as July. They were surprised, for they were generally prepared for floods in the months of August and September every year. This time, the villagers were subjected to not one but three floods in July and the first three weeks of August, which cut them off from the mainland. While they mourn the loss of their crop, they are equally worried about the next harvest. "How can crops now be grown on this land," asked a distraught Sai Kumar.

Beeraboyina Ramakrishna, 50, said the Godavari floods have "wrecked their plans". Water gushed into his thatched house and spoiled the seeds he had stored, which were to be sown on 11 acres of land. "Except my bullock cart, which I had tied to a tree, everything was swept away by the floods," the farmer said.

On August 25, when the waters had mostly receded, thousands of tribal people, who had fled their villages, said they were waiting to return to their houses, which are still filled with mud and yellow-brown water.

Apart from Alluri Sitharama Raju, the flood waters have affected four districts in Andhra Pradesh – Eluru, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema, West Godavari and East Godavari – affecting the lives of over two million people.

A survey of the damage caused by the floods is still in progress. "We have not been able to carry out the survey because of these repeated floods," officials said. The Indian Navy (Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam) and the National Disaster Response Force were deployed to help the government in relief and rescue efforts.

Tussle over a project

In the neighbouring State of Telangana too, a similar mood of despondency prevailed. On July 16, in the temple town of Bhadrachalam in Kothagudem district, the waters of the Godavari swelled frightfully, taking the flood level to 71.30 ft. This was the highest level the town had seen after the floods of 1986 when the water level reached 75.6 ft. It was way above the third warning level of 53 feet (the second warning level is 48 feet and the first is 43 feet). This year, the flood level rose above the third warning level of 53 ft four times. The flood waters forced the authorities to shut the bridge running across the town for two days. While Kothagudem district was among the worst affected by the floods in Telangana, the Adilabad, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Kumuram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Mulugu, Nirmal, and Peddapalli districts were battered by heavy rain.

Rambabu of Subash Nagar colony in Bhadrachalam recalled how his family had to move out of their home on July 15. "We left all our belongings behind. We moved to a relief camp at a local school and spent sleepless nights there for over a week. In the last week of July, we returned to our home only to find a portion of the house damaged. Electric appliances were wet and the certificates of our children were soaked," he said.

The Telangana government blamed the Andhra Pradesh government's decision to increase the height of the Polavaram irrigation project by 1.5 metres, for its woes. The Polavaram project is an under-construction multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari river, in the Eluru and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh. Following Andhra Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's direction on July 15, the State government raised the height of the upper cofferdam of the project to increase its capacity so that it could withstand massive floods. The decision helped Andhra Pradesh prevent damage to the cofferdam as well as the overflowing of floodwaters, but, ironically, several low-lying areas of Bhadrachalam were marooned soon after. Telangana's Transport Minister Puvvada Ajay Kumar demanded that the five villages, which were given to Andhra Pradesh during bifurcation along with six other mandals, be given back to Telangana so that the government can take foolproof measures such as the construction of flood embankments to prevent flooding in the temple town. Andhra Pradesh Minister for Water Resources Ambati Rambabu refuted the contention that raising the upper cofferdam's height had caused the floods in Bhadrachalam and asserted that the project design had been cleared by the Central Water Commission.

Apart from its problems with the Telangana government, the Andhra Pradesh government is also engaged in a tussle with the Centre on the relief and rehabilitation package. This has led to doubts on the rehabilitation of the tribal people from the submerged areas, who are mostly from the Koya community and the Konda Reddi community, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group. Jagan Mohan Reddy said the Centre is yet to release funds to the State for relief and rehabilitation (the project was accorded 'national status').

While the dispute over the project raged on, aggrieved residents of Subash Nagar Colony in Bhadrachalam staged a dharna in July to draw attention to the recurring problem of flooding. Scores of people, mainly women, squatted on the main road in front of the Government Degree College to press for a permanent solution to the problem.

"We are apprehensive that the water level in the Godavari will constantly hover above the first flood warning level of 43 ft at Bhadrachalam once the Polavaram project is completed," said Swamy, a resident of the temple town. "Both the Telangana and Andhra governments should work together to safeguard Bhadrachalam. This is home to the 17th century Sri Sitaramachandra Swamy temple. It is frequented by devotees from both the States."

Anxieties over the project deepened, especially after the last round of flooding. "There is a worry that the severe flooding in Bhadrachalam was caused by the increase of the height of the upper cofferdam of the Polavaram project," said M. Venkateshwarlu, District Secretary, Telangana Vyavasaya Karmika Sangham. "This needs to be addressed by both the State governments. They must constitute an expert panel to study the backwater effects on Bhadrachalam and other upstream areas of the Polavaram project."

Jhansi, of the flood-prone Kotha Colony in Bhadrachalam, is an activist of the All-India Democratic Women's Association. "Strengthening the two-decade-old *karakatta* (flood bank) along the banks of the Godavari in Bhadrachalam and extending it to the entire flood-prone area in the Bhadrachalam and Pinapaka constituencies is the only way to find a lasting solution to the flood menace," she said. "It is imperative that the five gram panchayats situated near Bhadrachalam in Andhra be transferred back to Telangana's Bhadrachalam division so that the *karakatta* can be extended."

On July 17, Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao announced the allocation of ₹1,000 crore to take up works for the protection of Bhadrachalam town. "This should be immediately released and alternative housing should be provided," said Deva of Ayyapa Colony. Officials said compensation of ₹10,000 each has already been disbursed to about 16,000 families affected by the floods.

'We can never leave the river'

In Andhra Pradesh, the Godavari meets the Bay of Bengal through its five branches – Gowthami, Vridha Gowthami, Coringa, Vasista, and Vynateya – which together let a staggering 1,300 tmcft (thousand million cubic feet) of floodwater into the sea last August alone. The division into these five branches occurs downstream of the Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowleswaram near Rajamahendravaram city. "In the central and eastern delta, spread across the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district, 98 habitations in 17 mandals had been affected by the Godavari floods by July 16. More than 14,000 people were evacuated," said District Revenue Officer Ch. Sattibabu. A majority of these are island villages.

On the rainy midnight of July 16, Malladi Peda Satyam, 60, had fled his thatched house in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema. Half his house, at Vakala Garuvu village, was already under water. He ekes out a living by fishing in the Godavari.

"All my six daughters are married. This year, I borrowed ₹70,000 from them to replace the roof of my thatched house. But now the floods have shattered my hopes of building a permanent house," he said. Peda Satyam named his youngest daughter after the Godavari. "We can never leave the river," he said.

In the Godavari region of Andhra Pradesh, the flood causes losses to the tune of ₹2,000 crore every year. In 2020, the estimated loss was above ₹2,000 crore, as per government records. This year, the losses have not been estimated due to repeated floods.

In the low-lying Eluru district, villagers said the situation was so bad that they ran out of drinking water. Villagers in Toorpu Mettu said they were compelled to drink the flood water. The Navy was pressed into relief operations. Those suffering from prolonged illness were forced to brave the flood waters to reach nearby hospitals, and pregnant women had to be airlifted. This Koya tribal habitation has 79 families.

Apart from the people, the floods have also affected the wildlife of the region. Deer and black bucks can be found on at least 20 islands of the river, all of which have been affected by the floods. In the flood mitigation plan of the State government, the protection of wildlife is still to get any attention, said environmentalists.

On the Chintoor-VR Puram stretch, thousands of tribal women waited for clothes as all their belongings had been carried away by the floodwaters. At Mukunuru village in Chintoor mandal of East Godavari, a Koya tribal girl said she had no clothes left. In Hyderabad, G. Yadaiah, who previously ran Koitur Bata, a school for the Koyas, agreed this was a major problem. "We have been flooded with requests from the Koyas and Konda Reddis in the flood-hit villages for clothes. We have managed to arrange some hundred sets of clothes to be distributed by August-end."

Residents of the region were also worried that their fertile agricultural lands along the Godavari would be taken up for construction of the guide bund of the barrage of the Sitamma Sagar multi-purpose project.

For those living in remote areas in the forest, commuting during floods is nothing short of a nightmare. A pregnant woman of Aswapurampadu village in Karakagudem mandal had to be carried on a 'doli' (makeshift stretcher) by her family members through slushy terrain to a road point, when a local stream flooded the kutcha road connecting their village. She was subsequently shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital in Kothagudem in an ambulance.

"About 190 pregnant women from the flood-prone areas were shifted to our hospital based on the expected delivery date, by the officials between July 10 and 29," said Dr. Ramakrishna, Superintendent, Government Area Hospital, Bhadrachalam. All of them had safe deliveries at the hospital last month, he said.

There are dozens of tribal habitations that lack pucca roads, said Aruna, a former Zilla Praja Parishad member of Yellandu. "Bike ambulances fitted with sidecars should be immediately pressed into service in such areas in the tribal majority district until all the tribal habitations get pucca roads," she suggested.

Devastation in Kaleshwaram

The floods have left a trail of devastation not only in Bhadrachalam, but also in the upstream area of Kaleshwaram. Here too, there is a debate on a project – the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. Construction on this project by the Telangana government began in 2016 after redesigning and re-engineering of the Pranahitha-Chevella Lift Irrigation Project taken up by the united Andhra Pradesh government in 2007. The project is expected to provide water for drinking and irrigation purposes to about 45 lakh acres in 20 districts in Telangana, apart from Hyderabad and Secunderabad.

The July floods inundated two pump-houses of the project on the night of July 14-15 as the river witnessed an unprecedented flow of 28.71 lakh cusecs (cubic feet per second) at Medigadda, one of the three key barrages of the project. (The other two are Annaram and Sundilla.) According to the project authorities, the flood level in the Godavari at Kaleshwaram, located in the upstream of Medigadda Barrage, surpassed the previous highest level of 107.05 m, recorded in the 1986 floods.

The first pump house constructed to lift water from Medigadda at Kannepally is designed to stand a flood level of 107.5 m at that location against the highest flood level of 106.7 m recorded in 1986. However, the pump house was flooded as the level crossed the 107.5 m barrier this time. Opposition parties have alleged that the pump houses were designed at levels lower than what was recommended.

As there was damage to crops as well as siltation along the course of Godavari and its tributaries, the flood level in the river at Kaleshwaram reached a new flood level of 108.8 m. A senior engineer of the Irrigation Department said this had ripple effects, with the pump house at Kasipeta, in the upstream of Annaram Barrage, also being submerged.

New records of the flood level were also seen at several other locations in the upstream.

'Our lives have been paralysed'

With the Godavari witnessing heavy floods in 36 years of the last 70 years, people living along the river's course both in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh brace themselves to face the impact every alternate year on an average. As Venkatesh Jatvi, a resident of Chintoor, said: "Since July, our lives have been paralysed. People who died of prolonged illness during the floods could not even get a decent farewell."

This year, the river has discharged nearly 4,277 tmcft of surplus water into the sea from Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage as on August 26. This is the highest in the last decade. The disaster calls for the two governments to strengthen embankments of the river in the stretches where people live, to minimise the impact of inundation, and address their concerns about irrigation projects and water levels.

FROM PAGE ONE

Azad quits Congress blaming Rahul Gandhi

"All senior and experienced leaders were sidelined and new coterie of inexperienced sycophants started running the affairs of the party," Mr. Azad said in his resignation letter.

"Worse still the remote control model that demolished the institutional integrity of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government now got applied to the Indian National Congress. While you are just a nominal figurehead, all the important decisions were being taken by Shri Rahul Gandhi or rather worse his security guards and PAs," he added.

In a no-holds-barred attack, the former Leader of the Opposition also pointed the political slide of the Congress under the Gandhis.

"Under your stewardship since 2014 and subsequently that of Shri Rahul Gandhi, the INC has lost two Lok Sabha elections in a humiliating manner. It has lost 39 out of the 49 Assembly elections held between 2014-2022," he said.

He added that the party had ceded space to the BJP at the Centre and regional parties in States.

Mr. Azad also blamed Mr. Gandhi for the slide of the Manmohan Singh-led UPA government and cited the incident where he had torn an ordinance as a "glaring example of his immaturity".

"This one single action more than anything else contributed significantly to the defeat of the UPA government in 2014 that was at the receiving end of a campaign of calumny and insinuation from a combination of the forces of the right wing and certain unscrupulous corporate interests," he said.

Mr. Azad said that ever since he, along with 22 of his colleagues, had written to Ms. Gandhi to suggest reforms, the coterie around Mr. Gandhi targeted him and even carried out a mock funeral in Jammu, and attacked his former colleague Kapil Sibal's house.

The former Congress stalwart claimed that the party had reached a point of no return as "proxies" are put up for leadership roles and called the upcoming organisational elections "a farce, a sham and a giant fraud".

"In fact, before starting *Bharath Jodo Yatra*, the leadership should have undertaken a Congress *Jodo* exercise across the country. It is therefore with great regret and an extremely leaden heart that I have decided to sever my half a century-old association with the Indian National Congress and hereby resign from all my positions including the primary membership of the Indian National Congress," Mr. Azad wrote.

Congress leaders slam Azad's resignation

They question the timing of his letter to Sonia Gandhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The resignation of Ghulam Nabi Azad on Friday triggered a barrage of reactions from his Congress colleagues, many of them reminding him of the various positions he enjoyed in the party and questioning the timing of the letter just ahead of the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' against the BJP.

Leading the charge was Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot who questioned the timing of the letter. "She [Sonia Gandhi] has gone to the U.S. for a medical check-up and you are making the letter public? This I understand is against human nature, against sensitivity," he said. "A leader who got everything in 42 years, someone who has not been without an office for 42 years is giving this message today, which is beyond my understanding."

J&K Congress leaders outside the residence of Ghulam Nabi Azad, after their resignation from the party in New Delhi. • PTI

Eight loyalists from the party's Jammu and Kashmir unit, including 3 Ministers, also resigned in solidarity with Mr. Azad.

Calling Mr. Azad's comments against former party chief Rahul Gandhi "immature and not being in good taste", Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge said,"You [Azad] enjoyed [power] for long, and now only you are finding fault?".

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said Mr. Azad was "trying to weaken the party from within".

"He was made Union Minister several times, appointed a general secretary, was made the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. Whatever a person can be offered, he was given. Instead of working for the party, he kept finding faults. I don't think the party will suffer because of his exit," Mr. Baghel said.

"If Mr. Azad and his remote control think his resignation will destabilise the Congress party's Mehangai Rally on September 4 and the launch of the Bharat Jodo Yatra on September 7, they are grossly mistaken. The resignation has further strengthened our resolve!" party general secretary Jairam Ramesh tweeted.

Former Lok Sabha member Sandeep Dikshit, who was a member of the group of 23 leaders, or the G-23, that had written to party chief Sonia Gandhi, said that they had raised "the banner of reforms and not revolt".

"When I read your letter of resignation, it gave me a sense of dismay and unfortunately, then a sense of betrayal," Mr. Diskhit wrote in a letter to Mr. Azad.

Rajya Sabha member Digvijaya Singh said Mr. Azad may have written the letter as he had "become close to those who removed Article 370 from J&K".

A fellow G-23 member Anand Sharma said the situation was avoidable if the party leadership had listened to the points raised by them in their August 2020 letter to Ms. Gandhi.

'Focus on *Parivar Chhodo*'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The BJP claimed on Friday that Ghulam Nabi Azad's resignation from the Congress reflects "a vote of no-confidence" in the leadership of the Opposition party, which has now become a "family firm".

The Congress should forget *Bharat Jodo* [unify India] and undertake a *Parivar Chhodo* [quit family] exercise," BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla said in a party statement, taking a swipe at Rahul's proposed *Bharat Jodo Yatra*.

> A man who has been treated with the greatest respect by the Congress leadership has betrayed it by his vicious personal attacks which reveals his true character
>
> JAIRAM RAMESH, Cong. general secretary

> As soon as your Rajya Sabha term got over, you got restless. You could not stay without a post even for a second
>
> PAWAN KHERA, AICC media dept. chairman

> It is unfortunate, that is what I can say. He has been a Congressman throughout
>
> BHUPINDER HOODA, Cong. leader

Shah holds meeting with J&K BJP leaders

Party sources term meeting pre-scheduled, deny any links with Azad resignation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

On a day former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad quit the Congress party, a team of the BJP's State unit met Union Home Minister Amit Shah to firm up organisational issues and discuss the political situation in the Union Territory.

While senior sources in the party said the BJP did not anticipate Assembly election this year considering the process of finalisation of the electoral rolls and the timetable thereof, the delimitation of the Assembly seats had spurred the need to discuss some action plan for organisational ramp-up.

Poll preparations

"It is the Election Commission that will decide on when election will be held, but the party [BJP] must begin preparations and be ready to face polls," a source said.

Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravinder Raina and other senior party leaders, including Union Minister Jitendra Singh, Devendra Singh Rana, MP Jugal Kishore and Shakti Raj Parihar, attended the meeting with Mr. Shah as did BJP general secretary-in-charge for J&K, Tarun Chugh, and co-in-charge Ashish Sood.

BJP sources added that the meeting with Mr. Shah was pre-scheduled, with Mr. Azad's resignation having no bearing on the matter.

Azad's exit

On the speculation that Mr. Azad may float a regional party in Jammu and Kashmir after his exit from the Congress and would contest the Assembly election, BJP leaders said they were in the dark with regard to Mr. Azad's plans.

BJP leaders said the political situation and the party's organisational affairs following the delimitation exercise came up for discussion.

"The delimitation of Assembly seats is on the lines of the rest of the country, with reserved seats for Scheduled Tribes *et al*, and the State unit has to build up organisational network in all seats," said a source.

Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha also held a meeting with Mr. Shah on Friday.

Operation Lotus failed in Delhi, says Kejriwal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday accused the BJP of spending "around ₹5,500 crore to poach over 200 legislators" across the country in its bid to topple elected governments.

The BJP's "Operation Lotus", however, had failed in Delhi where it had been converted into "Operation *Keechad* [sludge]" instead, said the Chief Minster. Mr. Kejriwal, without naming the BJP, alleged that "anti-national powers" had joined forces to overthrow the AAP government in Delhi.

He made the allegation during a special session of the Delhi Assembly, which adopted a resolution stating that the AAP-led city government had performed "exceedingly well" in all schemes under the social welfare sector, in addition to health and education.

The one-day session, which witnessed dramatic scenes leading to the expulsion of all eight BJP MLAs from the Assembly, was extended by a day after the introduction of a Confidence Motion by Mr . Kejriwal.

3-judge Bench to review verdict on poll promises

It was Chief Justice Ramana's Bench which initiated the idea of forming an expert committee to examine the problem of free gifts and prepare a "White Paper" suggesting the way forward. The court had recently even urged the Centre to call an all party meeting to discuss freebies.

But the debate before Chief Justice Ramana's Bench reached a stalemate when several political parties intervened to argue that "not all promises are freebies" and welfare measures rolled out for public good cannot be equated with "freebies". The parties had dissuaded the court from "gagging" a welfare state from following the Directive Principles of State Policy and distribute benefits to the people.

"Ultimately, it appears that the issues raised by the parties require a comprehensive hearing before orders can be passed," Chief Justice Ramana noted in the court's order on Friday.

The court ordered the freebies case to be listed before the new three-judge Bench in four weeks.

The court said the electorate is the final judge in a democracy, and "decides which party or candidate comes to power and also judge the performances of the party/candidates at the end of their legislative terms during the next round of elections".

Finally, the court said the judiciary usually does not interfere in matters of fiscal policy, but had stepped in in this case after the petitioners, led by advocate Ashwini Upadhyay, argued that "freebies are extended utilising the taxpayers' money into for increasing the popularity of the party and its electoral prospects".

Greatly relished the job, says CJI Ramana in farewell speech

'I may be judged as one who followed the rules of the game'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

On his final working day as the Chief Justice of India, Justice N.V. Ramana was on Friday given an emotional farewell by his colleagues and lawyers.

Senior advocate Dushyant Dave called Chief Justice Ramana a "citizens' judge", while senior advocate Kapil Sibal said the CJI sought answers from the government even during "turbulent times".

"When you ultimately judge me as a judge, I would like to say that I may be judged as a very ordinary judge, but one who greatly relished and enjoyed the job. I may be judged as one who meticulously followed the rules of the game and did not trespass into provinces forbidden. More importantly, as one who recognised preliminarily the moral power of a judge," Chief Justice Ramana said in his farewell address.

Justice N.V. Ramana

He took over as the Chief Justice when work at the Supreme Court was severely hit by the pandemic. The Collegium, during his 16-month tenure, appointed 11 judges to the top court. It recommended 255 names to High Courts, of which 224 have already been appointed. The top court had the largest number of women judges during his tenure.

His judicial work ranged from ordering an inquiry into the Pegasus snooping allegations to an intervention in the Lakhimpur Kheri killings. He froze the colonial sedition law and ordered a review of the court's judgment upholding certain controversial amendments to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Chief Justice Ramana frankly admitted that pendency was a "huge challenge".

"I must admit that issues of listing and posting of matters is one of the areas in which I could not pay much attention. We were busy firefighting on a daily basis. All sides are equal contributors for this problem," he said.

At least one Constitution Bench will function all-year: Justice Lalit

CJI-designate promises clarity, transparency in listing of cases

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, who is going to take oath as the 49th Chief Justice of India on August 27, 2022 assured that the Supreme Court will strive to have at least one Constitution Bench functioning throughout the year.

The Chief Justice-designate promised clarity and transparency in the urgent listing of cases in the top court.

Justice Lalit said a clear-cut mechanism would be in place to allow lawyers to mention urgent matters, which includes bail petitions, etc., before the respective Benches for early listing. He said he has already discussed these three key issues with the Supreme Court Bar leaders.

Justice U.U. Lalit

The sweeping changes would help the judges identify, hear and provide relief in cases which need their urgent attention.

It would also help litigants and lawyers to avoid delay in getting their cases listed for hearing before judges due to the long-winded processes of the Supreme Court Registry.

Mornings in the Supreme Court are witness to crowds of lawyers trying to convince judges to put up their cases for hearing. Often, many of these cases require urgent attention as they concern the right of personal liberty or property of common citizens.

Justice Lalit's initiative comes at a time when the Supreme Court's pendency has crossed over 71,000 from a little over 55,000 in 2017.

This is despite the fact that the sanctioned judicial strength of the court was increased to 34 judges in August 2019. A steady rise in arrears regardless of the periodic increase in judicial strength has been a constant phenomenon since 1950.

The outgoing Chief Justice N.V. Ramana, on his last working day, apologised for not being able to list all the pending matters.

SC relief for U.P. CM in hate speech case

A protest petition filed against the closure was still pending in the trial court.

"In the aforesaid circumstances, we do not think it necessary to go into the contentions raised by both sides on the issue of denial of sanction for prosecution," Justice Ravikumar, who authored the nine-page judgment, held. However, the top court has left open the legal questions on the issue of sanction.

The judgment said the case against Mr. Adityanath was that he had allegedly made a hate speech "that led to incidents described as '2007 Gorakhpur Riots'." He was a Member of Parliament then.

The State government had then directed an investigation by the Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department (CB- CID) of the Uttar Pradesh Police.

Several persons had approached the High Court for a transfer of the investigation to an independent investigating agency. But the High Court had dismissed allegations against the investigation and found no fault in the the State refusing sanction to prosecute Mr. Adityanath.

Hemant Soren meets coalition MLAs twice

The ruling party MLAs again met in evening after Mr. Soren came back after attending an official function at Netarhat and reposed their faith in him.

Meanwhile, the buzz is that the ruling party MLAs could be sent to a resort in Chhattisgarh.

JMM general secretary Supriyo Bhattacharya said, "The message is loud and clear that we are intact and ready to face any consequences."

In case of his disqualification from membership of the Assembly, Mr. Soren would resign from his post and immediately stake claim with supporting MLAs before the Governor to form a fresh government.

Shiv Sena forges alliance with Sambhaji Brigade

'Coalition an effort to save democracy'

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Bereft of new allies after Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's intra-party rebellion split the Shiv Sena, the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena faction on Friday announced an alliance with the pro-Maratha Sambhaji Brigade.

This decision is being seen as a way for Mr. Thackeray to make good his loss after Mr. Shinde's revolt has severely depleted his faction of a number of Maratha leaders.

Speaking in Mumbai, Mr. Thackeray, the Sena president and former Chief Minister, stressed that the alliance with the Brigade had not been done keeping in mind electoral gains, but to preserve regional identity and save democracy.

Responding to the different ideologies of the Brigade and the Sena, Mr. Thackeray said that even the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today did not follow the ideology of its parent organisation, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

"The BJP of today ignores the stance taken by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat," alleged Mr. Thackeray.

Manoj Akhare, president, Sambhaji Brigade, said that the decision to ally with Mr. Thackeray's Sena was taken keeping in mind the "welfare of Maharashtra and given that democracy was under threat in the country today."

Despite having taken opposing stances in the past, Mr. Akhare said that both the Sambhaji Brigade and the Shiv Sena (Thackeray faction) were "progressive parties."

Twitter stonewalls queries on claims of govt. agent on payroll

House panel had summoned officials of microblogging firm

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

Twitter stonewalled questions by members of the Standing Committee on Information Technology on the latest revelations made by its former head of security Peiter Zatko who claimed that Indian government forced the social media firm to put a government agent on its payroll. At a meeting on Friday, the Twitter executives evaded questions on the subject.

The committee has asked Twitter to submit replies within a week's time.

Mr. Zatko, as per a news report in *Washington Post*, filed a complaint with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, regarding this. To several questions by the members on Mr. Zatko's allegations, Twitter, which was represented by Samiran Gupta who heads Public Policy, Shagufta Qamran, director, Public Policy and Government, along with their legal head, claimed that Mr. Zatko's claims are "motivated and vague".

The members according to sources also wanted to know whether Twitter has access to users' data as suggested by Mr. Zatko. "They claimed that they have an elaborate protocol with safeguards in place for accessing data and also only a select few staffers have been extended this privilege. But they couldn't tell us exactly how many of their staffers based out of India have this privilege," a member on the condition of anonymity said.

The members then demanded to know how many people does Twitter employ in India and how many of these have a previous record of working with the Indian government. To all these questions, Twitter officials did not have a reply and have sought time to make written submissions. Twitter officials further claimed that there has been no data breach in India.

IN BRIEF

Awadh Bihari Chaudhary elected Bihar Speaker

PATNA

Senior RJD leader and party MLA Awadh Bihari Chaudhary on Friday was unanimously elected as new Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly. Mr. Chaudhary was escorted to the Speaker's chair by CM Nitish Kumar and Leader of Opposition Vijay Kumar Sinha.

CPI(M) slams Centre's stance in Pegasus probe

NEW DELHI

The Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) hit out at the Narendra Modi government for not cooperating with the committee appointed by the Supreme Court to investigate the use of Pegasus spyware. The party called it a clear admission of guilt that the spyware was used.

IN BRIEF

Jaishankar holds talks with Argentine President

BUENOS AIRES

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has called on Argentine President Alberto Fernandez, and discussed measures for making trade ties more sustainable and ambitious as well as the potential for bilateral cooperation in defence and nuclear energy. PTI

'Sonali Phogat was drugged before death'

PANAJI

BJP leader Sonali Phogat was drugged at a party by her two associates who have been now named as accused in the case related to her murder, the Goa Police said on Friday. Both the accused were seen mixing "some obnoxious chemical substance" in the liquid which was given to her at a restaurant in Anjuna, said Inspector General of Police Omvir Singh Bishnoi. PTI

Mirwaiz 'disallowed' to join Friday prayers at Jamia Masjid

Policemen stopped me from leaving my residence, says Hurriyat chairman

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Kashmir's chief cleric and Hurriyat chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq was disallowed on Friday to leave his residence in Srinagar to attend congregational prayers at the historic Jamia Masjid, a week after J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha suggested "he was a free man".

"I started for the Jamia Masjid around 12:40 p.m. All I intended to do was offer my namaz. However, policemen outside stopped me from leaving my residence. I told them that a statement on my release was made by a responsible person who heads J&K," the Mirwaiz told *The Hindu*.

In an interview in Srinagar on August 19, J&K L-G Manoj Sinha said, "The Mirwaiz was not detained. In the past, his father was assassinated, unfortunately. We keep security around his house to protect him. He needs to decide what he wants to do. He is neither under house arrested nor detained."

Following the statement, the Mirwaiz announced that he will deliver a Friday sermon, which would have been his first since the Centre abrogated the special provisions of Article 370 on August 5, 2019.

Hitting roadblock: Policemen stop Mirwaiz Umar Farooq outside his residence in Srinagar. •NISSAR AHMAD

"The administration's move has saddened me deeply. I also feel sad for those worshippers who had arrived at the Jamia Masjid to hear me," the Mirwaiz said.

Meanwhile, security was beefed up in and around the Jamia Masjid. The movement of two-wheelers towards the grand mosque was also restrained. All lanes and bylanes were blocked with mobile bunkers around the mosque. However, the Friday prayers were allowed inside the mosque.

According to the Mirwaiz, he has been confined to his residence for the past three years in Srinagar. The Mirwaiz heads the separatist Hurriyat that advocates dialogue between India, Pakistan and the people of Kashmir to resolve the Kashmir problem.

In an interview with *The Hindu* on Thursday, the Mirwaiz said he wanted to meet people and listen to them if he was set free. "I want to meet my colleagues and party men and listen and talk to them," the Mirwaiz said.

Army speeds up procurement of light tank 'Zorawar' for LAC

It would improve Indian Army's operational capabilities

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

With the experience of deploying armour at an altitude of 15,000 ft. to outmanoeuvre the movement of Chinese forces during the stand-off in eastern Ladakh, the Indian Army is prioritising the procurement of the indigenous Indian light tank named 'Zorawar', for deployment in the mountains, official sources said.

In addition to the light tank, the Army will induct niche technologies such as loitering munitions, anti-drone capabilities and next generation Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities, officials added.

"It will have equal firepower as the present tank, including missile firing. The power to weight ratio will make it very agile," sources in the security establishment said.

India and China had deployed tanks which were pulled back as part of the disengagement. •FILE PHOTO

"The project is moving very, very well. The Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) from the Defence Acquisition Council is expected next month," a source stated.

The recent experiences along the northern borders have shown that armour equipment profile is one of the most prominent factors in defining the operational capability of land forces, a source said, while noting that China has inducted a large number of state-of-the-art medium and light tanks.

At the height of the ongoing standoff in Eastern Ladakh, India and China had deployed tanks on the mountain peaks which were subsequently pulled back as part of the disengagement from both banks of the lake.

Net-zero target could boost India's GDP: study

It can create 15 million jobs by 2047

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

Achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2070, a target that Prime Minister Narendra Modi committed to in Glasgow in 2021, could boost India's economy by 4.7% above the projected baseline growth in GDP terms by 2036, worth a total of $371 billion, said a report commissioned by the High-level Policy Commission on Getting Asia to Net Zero, which was released here on Friday.

It could create as many as 15 million new jobs by 2047, it said.

Ending new coal mining by 2023 would help achieve net zero emissions.

The *Getting India to Net Zero* report, as it is called, contains new research and modelling, and finds that policies to initiate the clean energy transition will be crucial in determining when India achieves net zero emissions and how much it could benefit from it.

Positive economic impacts are driven in part by an improved trade balance amounting to $236 billion due to reduced demand for fossil fuels. Beyond this, maximising viable policy options to decarbonise its energy system and economy could lead India to net zero emissions by mid-century.

Ending new coal as soon as possible by 2023 and transitioning from unabated coal power by 2040 would be particularly impactful to get India to net zero emissions sooner.

By reaching net zero by 2050, India could boost annual GDP by as much as 7.3% ($470 billion), the report finds.

UGC issues list of 21 fake universities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued a list of fake universities in the country.

Across the country, 21 institutions have been listed as fake and not empowered to confer any degree, majority of which are in Delhi followed by Uttar Pradesh.

"At least 21 self-styled, unrecognised institutions which are functioning in contravention of the UGC Act, have been declared as fake universities and these are not empowered to confer any degree," UGC Secretary Rajnish Jain said.

One institution in Puducherry, Sree Bodhi Academy of Higher Education, has also been included in the list.

The list includes eight institutions in Delhi, followed by four in Uttar Pradesh, and two each in Odisha and West Bengal. One institution in Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have also been featured.

'Need system for maritime concerns'

Amid signs of strain, Sri Lankan envoy says trust deficit should be avoided

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Amidst signs of New Delhi's disappointment over Colombo's decision to allow a Chinese tracking vessel to dock in Hambantota, Sri Lanka's envoy in India called for building a new "framework" on how to deal with such maritime security concerns in the future.

Speaking to *The Hindu* days after the Chinese satellite and missile tracking ship, Yuan Wang 5, had departed from the Sri Lankan port after "refuelling and replenishing supplies", High Commissioner Milinda Moragoda said Colombo had kept the Modi government briefed at the "highest levels" through the controversy.

In a possible sign of the strain in ties over the issue, the Ministry of External Affairs had issued a rare "travel guidance" on Thursday cautioning Indian tourists about visiting Sri Lanka, which is in the middle of a deep economic crisis.

Without commenting on the MEA advisory, Mr. Moragoda said it was important to look to the future of ties, particularly in terms of India-Sri Lanka cooperation in the economic and strategic sphere. Apart from the economic assistance of $3.8 billion including credit lines from India, New Delhi and Colombo are discussing more trade ties, a power-sharing grid, infrastructure projects in renewable energy and oil storage.

Milinda Moragoda

India has also supported Sri Lanka in talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a bailout.

"There is no question that the docking of the ship was an issue between us. The question is how to build a framework for such problems in order to avoid them in the future, and not to allow this kind of issue to lead to a trust deficit," Mr. Moragoda said, adding that despite "ups and downs", Sri Lanka would like to "build an equilibrium in the relationship, where there are no surprises."

In an unusually public move, the Modi government had last month conveyed its concerns over the docking of the ship, believed to be a satellite research and surveillance vessel. While the Sri Lankan government had asked China to defer the ship's plans entirely after India's objections, the Chinese government had only agreed to delay its arrival in Hambantota by a few days, and eventually the Yuan Wang 5 docked in the port from August 16-22.

According to Mr. Moragoda, the permissions for the docking had been granted to China amidst a period of political turmoil in Colombo, when President Ranil Wickremesinghe took charge after the ouster of previous President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, as well as the economic crisis, leading to "not enough attention" being given to the case.

"In this particular case, there could have been a level of confusion in Colombo when it came to differentiating between the classes of vessels and technologies involved. Unfortunately, once the approvals were given, it was hard to take them back," Mr. Moragoda said, adding that Sri Lanka was hoping to focus on strengthening lines of communication, as well as high level exchanges, and people-to-people ties.

According to sources, both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Ranil Wickremesinghe are expected to travel to Tokyo to attend former Japan PM Shinzo Abe's state funeral.

On a visit to Gujarat last week, Sri Lankan tourism minister Harin Fernando had pitched for more Indian tourists, saying that he hoped that at least 10 lakh international tourists, mostly Indians, would visit this year.

HC clarifies on transport of cows in U.P.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Allahabad High Court has observed that the mere transportation of cows within Uttar Pradesh is not a violation of any of the provisions of the Uttar Pradesh Cow Slaughter Act.

The court, in a recent order, maintained that no permission was required to transport cows within the State.

The Allahabad High Court was hearing a plea against an order by the Varanasi District Magistrate to confiscate the truck of Mohammad Shakib, as the first information report (FIR) stated that the vehicle was ferrying cows for slaughter.

Allowing the petition, the single-judge Bench of Mohammed Aslam ordered that the vehicle, which had been in police possession for 20 months, be released.

The Bench set aside the order of the District Magistrate, which had been upheld by a lower court in Chandauli.

TELANGANA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

CORRIGENDUM
ON TENDER NOTIFICATION NO:P9/359(40)/2022 DT.21.08.2022

Floor rates for hiring of buses referred in tender notification NO:P9/359(40)/2022 DT.21.08.22 of TELANGANA ROAD TRANSPORT COPORATION (TSRTC) published on 24.08.2022 are revised and up loaded in TSRTC website http://tsrtc.telangana.gov.in on 26.08.2022. The action to revise the floor rates was already notified on TSRTC website on 25.08.22.

DIPR No.: 591-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23 Sd/- VICE-CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Commissioner of Customs, Customs Preventive Commissionerate Vijayawada

SALE NOTICE
THROUGH E-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION

Scrap of Imported Plant and machinery Items is for sale through E-Tender Cum E-Auction by the Customs Department through the MSTC Ltd, Visakhapatnam on **12.09.2022.** Pre-Auction period for physical inspection of the goods is **from 27.08.2022 TO 10.09.2022.** For details, please visit (i) www.mstcecommerce.com (ii) www.mstc.co.in For details contact: The Commissioner of Customs, Customs Preventive Commissionerate, Vijayawada. 9848148945, 9573254429, 9848604378 E-mail ID: cdsrupati@gmail.com.

For details contact:
MSTC Ltd, Visakhapatnam
Ph: 0891-2746948 / 2701066 / 2521566.

BIKANER TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, BIKANER
Kami Industrial Area, Pugal Road, Bikaner-334004

Ref. No. BTU/ 3969 **Notice Inviting Bid** Date: 20.08.22

Bikaner Technical University invites following bids:

S. No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	NIB No.	UBN No.	Last Date & Time
1.	Hiring of Vehicles as and when Required	17.70 Lacs	BTU222 5A0007	BTU2223SLOB 00007	02.09.2022 (Upto 5.00PM)
2.	Collection of written Answer Books from the University examination centers, Deliver Answer Books to coordinator/ assessment Centre and bring back to University Head Quarter.	17.00 Lacs	BTU222 5A0008	BTU2223SLOB 00008	02.09.2022 (Upto 5.00PM)

Others particulars of the bids can be find on the procurement portal www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in of the state and Bikaner Technical University website www.btu.ac.in

Raj Sanwad/C/22/6786 (Registrar)

Government of Rajasthan
Chief Medical and Health Officer
Swasthya Bhawan, Sameshwar Road, Sirohi
Tel.: 02972-222259, 294158 E-mail ID: cmho-sir-rj@nic.in

F.()/Tender/Diagnostics/2022/2390 Date: 18.08.2022

Notice Inviting E-Bid (01/2022-23)

Bids for Procurement of Diagnostic Equipments and Reagents & Consumables are invited from interested bidders as upto 02.00 PM date 20.09.2022 Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal http://sppp.raj.nic.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in of the state website. The Approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2,00,00,000.00

NIB Code: MHS2223A1583 UBN is : MHS2223GLOB02958

Chief Medical and Health Officer,
DIPR/C/10901 Sirohi

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त चित्तौड़गढ़

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for Construction Works of Various Roads in Distt. Chittorgarh (5 Year DLP) 2 No. Packages. Procurement are invited from interested bidders upto **6.00 PM of 13.09.2022**. Other particulars of the id may be visited on the procurement portal (http:// eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 362.77 Lacs.**

UBN No.
1. PWD2223WSOB06174
2. PWD2223WSOB06175

(Hari Singh Mina)
Superintending Engineer
PWD Circle Chittorgarh
E-mail :- piu_chittor@rediffmail.com

DIPR/C/10946

COMMISSIONERATE OF HORTICULTURE
PANT KRISHI BHAWAN, JAIPUR-302005
Tel.No.0141-2227606; E-mail: jdh.ext.hort@rajasthan.gov.in

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)/ NOTICE INVITING BID (NIB)

No.: F(24) CH/ PMKSY-MI/ Fet-Bid/2022-23/2547 Date: 17.08.2022
Department of Horticulture invites e-bids from eligible bidders for following items-

S.No.	Type of Goods / Services	Estimated cost (INR Lakh)
1.	Supply of Water Soluble Fertilizers for Fertigation	496.0
2.	Supply of Water Soluble Fertilizers for Foliar Fertilization	66.7
3.	Supply and installation of Automation in Micro Irrigation System	133.3

Interested eligible bidders may obtain bid document by downloading from http://sppp.raj.nic.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in from 18.08.2022 to 14.09.2022 11.30 AM.

UBN- HOR2223GLOB00043 (Chetan Deora)
Dipr/C/10872 Commissioner, Horticulture

एसजेवीएन ग्रीन एनर्जी लिमिटेड
SJVN Green Energy Limited
(A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of SJVN Limited)
CIN: U40100HP2022GOI009237

E- Tender No. : SGEL/CHQ/Contracts/Floating SPP/Nangal/2022

Online bids (E-tender) on Domestic Competitive Bidding (DCB) are invited on behalf of SJVN Green Energy Limited for **Design, Engineering, Supply, Construction, Erection, Testing, Commissioning, and three (03) years comprehensive Operation & Maintenance of 15 MW(AC) floating solar PV power plant at Nangal Pond, Near Village Neilla, District Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh.** For details, visit websites : **https://www.bharat-electronictender.com** and **www.sjvn.nic.in.** Last date for bid submission is **15.09.2022 (1300 Hrs).** Amendments, if any, shall be issued on websites only.

DGM (Contracts) SJVN Green Energy Limited
(A wholly owned subsidiary of SJVN Ltd.)
Corporate Headquarters, Shakti Sadan Shanan, Shimla (H.P)
Email- contracts.sgel@sjvn.nic.in

BHARAT DYNAMICS LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
GACHIBOWLI, HYDERABAD-500 032

Ref:BDL/CC/OT/GT/007/2022-23 Date:27.08.2022

e-PROCUREMENT ABRIDGE TENDER NOTICE
Inviting Indigenous Competitive Bidding

Sl.No	Tender ID	Description	Estimate in Rs
1	64695	Construction of ASRAAM Project at BDL,Bhanur	284 Lakhs

Please visit website https://bdltenders.abcprocure.com for further details. Bids should be submitted online only. **"corrigendum if any shall be issued through our e-portal only and not in Newspapers"**
* Bidders(Civil Contractors/Service Providers/Sub-contractors/Suppliers) are Requested to apply for online Vendor Registration in BDL website http://172.25.1.64/bdldesign/login.php for business prospects.
Deputy General Manager (Corp Comm)

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Unit - 1: Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist.
Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Unit - 2: Mondipatti - 621 306. Trichy District, Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04332 - 261600. Extn: 6148 / 6181

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Nature of work	Due date
222313 003177	Transportation of Paper Reels / Bundles / Boxes from TNPL Unit - I at Kagithapuram to various branches / destinations throughout India.	05.09.2022
222313 003187	Transportation of Bagasse / Fuel (Coal / Raw Lignite) from / to M/s. BannariAmman Sugars Ltd., Sathyamangalam	09.09.2022
222313 003188	Transportation of Bagasse / Fuel (Coal Raw Lignite) from / to M/s. EID Parry (I)Ltd., Pugalur.	14.09.2022
222313 002701	Operation and Maintenance of Phase - I & Phase - II Windfarms at Devarkulam and Perungudi	12.09.2022
222333 000256	Operation of Lime Sludge Drying System at TNPL Cement Plant	12.09.2022
2022020	Dry Fly Ash & Dry Cinder Ash from Mohanur Offsite and Dry Fly Ash from Kachirayapalayam Offsite	07.09.2022
222323 001882	Shrink Bundling of Paper Board Reams in Finishing House at TNPL Unit - II, Trichy	12.09.2022
222323 001883	Support Service for Salt Cake Feeding, Furnace Oil and Miscellaneous works in Soda Recovery Plant at TNPL Unit - II, Trichy	13.09.2022
82022016	One Year Contract Rate Basis on "As is Where is" Basis Damaged GI Wire Bits	02.09.2022
Email	222313003177; 3187 & 3188 - purchase.trans@tnpl.co.in 222313002701 & 222333000256 - tech_services@tnpl.co.in 2022020 - stores.dis@tnpl.co.in 222323001882; 1883 - tos.u2@tnpl.co.in 82022016 - storesdis.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only. Detailed Terms & conditions, Qty. Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in Tender document at our Websites : **www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in**

DIPR/3913/Tender/2022 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*
"செறுவான் வயலுக்கும் வளம் சேர்ப்போம், எருவான புகழுக்கும் வித்திடுவோம்"

राष्ट्रीय मात्स्यिकी विकास बोर्ड
National Fisheries Development Board
मत्स्यपालन विभाग/Department of Fisheries
मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्रालय / Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
भारत सरकार / Government of India
प्लॉट संख्या-235, पी.वी.एन.आर एक्सप्रेस वे, इब्राहिम बी.पी.एल.पी. प., हैदराबाद- 500052
Pillar No. 235, PVNR Expressway, SVPNPA Post, Hyderabad-500 052
फोन/ Phone No. 040- 24000201; फैक्स/ Fax No: 040-2401 5568; ईमेल/ Mail: info.nfdb@nic.in

NFDB/Division I/Fishing Vessel Insurance/2020-21 Date: 26.08.2022

Notice inviting Request for Proposal (RFP) from IRDAI registered Insurance Companies / IRDAI licensed Insurance Intermediaries for INSURANCE PREMIUM SUBVENTION FOR FISHING VESSELS – PMMSY (Marine Hull & Machinery Insurance for Fishing Vessels)

National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) under the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India, invites Request for Proposal (RFP) from IRDAI registered Insurance Companies / IRDAI licensed Insurance Intermediaries for implementation as well as servicing of the scheme "Insurance Premium Subvention for Fishing Vessels under PMMSY". The detailed RFP document including the scope of the scheme, bid schedule, eligibility criteria, formats for submission, etc. is available on NFDB website http://www.nfdb.gov.in, Department of Fisheries, Government of India website http://www.dof.gov.in & Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) http://www.eprocure.gov.in

Interested bidders can download the RFP from the above websites and submit their Bids in CPP Portal http://www.eprocure.gov.in only.

Sd/-
Chief Executive, NFDB

Due date for bid submission: On or before 29-09-2022, 2:00 PM

OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES ZONE, UDAIPUR
Near Akashwani, Chetak Circle, Udaipur(Rajasthan) 313001
Phone no.: 0294-2414794 Email:- aceudaipur2019@gmail.com

No.:- ACE/Actt/Bhilwara/2022-23/12725 Dated: 18/08/2022

E-NIT No. 11/2022-23

Bids for the following work are invited from interested bidders upto 06:00 PM, dated 14.09.2022.

S. No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost of Work (Rs. In lacs)
1.	Rehabilitation of Canal System of Gambhiri Medium Irrigation Project, Tehsil Nimahera Dist. Chittorgarh	1068.57
2.	Renovation, Repair & Restoration of Uncha minor Irrigation Project, Tehsil - Nimahera Dist. Chittorgarh	856.30

Other particulars of bid may be visited on the Procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in & www.water.rajsthan.gov.in/ wrd

UBN:- 1. WRD 2223WLOB01188
2. WRD2223WLOB01189

Additional Chief Engineer
DIPR/C/10864 Water Resources Zone, Udaipur

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECT, PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, JODHPUR
Tel. 0291-2651700 E-mail:rj_cejod@nic.in

No. CE(P)/PHED/ju/22-23/10532-10575 Date: 10-08-2022

Notice Inviting Bid (NIB No. 13/2022-23)

Bid for **Execution of works related to "Piped water supply scheme Tinwari-Mathaniya-Osian-Baori-Bhopalgarh, Distt. Jodhpur for providing FHTC in 130 MH and 641 OHs of constituency Osian and Bhopalgarh including Operation & maintenance for 10 years (upto VTC) after 1 year defect liability period" under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** is invited from interested bidder up to 18.00 hrs. 12/09/2022 for E/C: Rs. 183.63 Cr. Other particulars of thd bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in

UBN: PHE2223WLOB05302
NIB Code:- PHE2223A2623

Chief Engineer Project
DIPR/C/10841 PHED Jodhpur

Centre picks 75 tribal districts for TB intervention project

Move comes after door-to-door screening of over 68,000 villages in tribal districts

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

After having run an active case-finding campaign to detect instances of Tuberculosis (TB) among tribal populations over the past six months, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Central TB Division of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have now zeroed in on 75 tribal districts, where focused interventions will be run over the next few months with the aim to make them TB-free.

The campaign to detect TB cases across 174 tribal districts in the States of Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhatisgarh, Assam, Gujarat, Telangana and others started this January under the *Aashwasan* Campaign, under which door-to-door screening was done in over 68,000 villages. Official data showed that 3,82,811 people were identified for presumptive TB after a verbal screening of over 1.03 crore people in these villages.

Targeted treament: As part of the campaign, 9,971 people who tested positive were placed under treatment. • AP

Of these, over 2.79 lakh people's samples were tested for TB, among which, 9,971 people tested positive and were placed under treatment.

At a conclave held to discuss the findings from the campaign, Tribal Affairs Ministry Joint Secretary Naval Jit Kapoor said the data clearly indicated that tribal populations are more vulnerable to TB and other respiratory diseases compared to other population groups.

Community engagement

Discussing the way forward, both the Health and Tribal Affairs ministries have decided on a three-pronged strategy to address the high incidence of TB in the selected 75 tribal districts, keeping with the government's mission to make India TB-free by 2025, a government statement said.

This includes generating demand for TB services by engaging with community influencers like tribal leaders, tribal healers, Panchayati Raj Institution members, Self-Help Groups and youth in the tribal areas, who are expected to help increase awareness on TB.

To guide the implementation of these measures, the government plans to deploy two officials each at the district level and three officials in each of the state TB cells.

Lumpy Skin Disease will not impact milk production: Amul

Situation in Gujarat is under control, says MD R.S. Sodhi

A. M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

The Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) played havoc in the country, killing thousands of cattle in many States. The situation in Gujarat is completely under control and the disease will not impact the milk production, sales or its prices in the long run, said R.S. Sodhi, Managing Director (MD) of Amul, the cooperative giant in the milk sector.

Mr. Sodhi told *The Hindu* that the decrease in milk production in Gujarat, where 91,000 cases of LSD were reported, was just 0.25%. Proper vaccination could curb the disease in other parts of the country too, he said and offered to share Amul's expertise with other States to deal with the situation. "Vaccination is the best way to curb the disease. On the national level, I don't think there will be any impact in the production due to the LSD. We had a good monsoon. Milk production will improve now. In the organised sector, LSD had no impact on production and procurement. I also don't see any impact of LSD on the milk prices and milk production in the long term," Mr. Sodhi said.

R.S. Sodhi

Second year in a row

Mr. Sodhi said Gujarat faced LSD for the second year in a row, reporting more than 91,000 cases of LSD and 3,260 deaths this time. The disease was reported first from the Saurashtra region, in the districts adjoining Rajasthan. In 2021, it was more in south Gujarat.

"The government's veterinary infrastructure is very strong in Saurashtra region. In northern and central Gujarat, we have very good infrastructure. So we made joint teams immediately and decided to provide treatment for affected animals. It takes seven to 12 days for an animal to recover from this disease. During the time, milk production decreases to 50 to 70%," he said.

Noted Islamic scholar Umri passes away

ZIYA US SALAM
NEW DELHI

Renowned Islamic scholar and former president of Jamaat e Islami Hind, Maulana Jalaluddin Umri, passed away in New Delhi after prolonged illness. He was 87.

He was widely respected in intellectual circles. A liberal man who always ended his Eid sermon by encouraging women to attend prayers in a mosque, he was a multilinguist.

His funeral prayers will be said at the mosque at JIH headquarters in Delhi on Saturday.

IN BRIEF

NIA opposes Hany Babu's bail petition

MUMBAI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday opposed Prof. Hany Babu's bail in the Bhima Koregaon caste violence case and said he is accused of overthrowing the government. Agency said communication from co-accused Arun Ferreira to the Central Committee of Communist Party of Brazil (Red Faction) was found on Mr. Babu's computer because he "had responsibility for international coordination of CPI (Maoist)".

African swine fever: two Punjab villages infected

CHANDIGARH

Punjab government on Friday declared two villages — Bandugar in Patiala and Mandofal in Fatehgarh Sahib — as African swine fever affected zones and notified these areas as 'infected zones' for prevention of the spread of fever. Restrictions have been imposed to prevent further spread, said Minister Lalit Singh Bhullar.

India, Tanzania to set up defence task force

NEW DELHI

India and Tanzania plan to form a task force to prepare a five year 'future road map' for enhancing defence cooperation between the nations and to hold the next Joint Defence Cooperation meeting in Tanzania soon. This was agreed at the bilateral meeting between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Tanzanian Minister of Defence and National Service Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax on Friday.

CBI records conviction rate of 67.56% in 2021

Investigation pending in 982 cases: CVC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) recorded a conviction rate of 67.56% in 2021, compared to 69.83% in 2020, according to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) annual report.

The CBI registered 680 regular cases and 67 preliminary enquiries last year, while it had registered 589 regular cases and 87 preliminary enquiries in 2020.

Last year, court judgments were received in 360 cases, which included 202 convictions, 82 acquittals and 15 of discharge from allegations. In 61 matters, cases were disposed of on other reasons. At the end of the year, a total of 10,232 cases were pending in various courts.

In 2021, investigations were pending in 982 cases, whereas the figure stood at 1,117 the previous year. The probe was finalised in 798 regular cases and 86 preliminary inquiries last year.

Corruption cases

Of the total cases instituted last year, 457 pertained to various charges under the Prevention of Corruption Act. They involved 549 public servants, of whom 221 were gazetted officers.

As per the report, 102 cases were registered for demand of bribe by public servants for showing favour and 40 for possession of disproportionate assets. Of the 747 cases, – 133 were taken up on court directions and 37 on references from State governments and Union Territories.

The CBI said that in 2021-end, 177 cases were pending for grant of sanction for prosecution under Prevention of Corruption Act.

Vishnugadh project likely to face inquiry

World Bank panel mulls scrutiny over complaints of damage to Uttarakhand temple, livelihood loss

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

An independent panel of the World Bank is considering a plea by residents of Haat village, Chamoli district, Uttarakhand to investigate environmental damage from the under-construction Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project (VPHEP) in the district, according to documents reviewed by *The Hindu*.

The 444-MW VPHEP is being built by the Tehri Hydropower Development Corporation (THDC), a partially State-owned enterprise. The project is primarily funded by the World Bank and was sanctioned in 2011. It is proposed to be completed in June 2023. About 40% of the funds for the $792 million project (₹64,000 crore approx.) has already been disbursed.

Residents in their complaint have said muck dumping from the dam threatens the local Lakshmi Narayan Temple, which is deemed to be of historical and cultural importance by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

Project underway: About 40% of funds for the $792 million project has already been disbursed. • V.V. KRISHNAN

The historical significance of the temple wasn't known until the ASI investigated and submitted its report this year, said Mallika Bhanot, an environmentalist based in Uttarakhand.

The complainants, whose identities aren't public but comprise 83 community members, said that other than ecological damage, the project had caused forced resettlement, loss of livelihoods and, the amount of compensation offered was often inadequate.

Last September, community members who refused to take compensation and relocate voluntarily were evicted, and some were "locked up in the police station," the plea notes.

They also complained about the limited availability of water, saying that 70 of the 92 households received water only for two hours daily. Before the project construction, they had ready access to water.

Fresh issues

This is the third such complaint to the bank panel by villagers, with past complaints not having triggering an investigation. Before deciding on whether such an investigation is required, the panel had written to the bank management asking for a response to the issues raised by the villagers.

The panel also contacted the project management of the THDC who, it said, assured them that they wouldn't dump muck close to the Lakshmi Narayan Temple, that they were continuing to support livelihood activities and that a grievance redress mechanism, which included community members, was established in 2009.

Water supply in the resettled area was reviewed in June 2022 and that water is pumped twice daily from the river to a water tank in the resettled area, which could be accessed by households, the management informed the panel.

The panel noted that this time, fresh issues were being raised and the third request presented "new evidence or describes new circumstances." The panel also noted the requesters' claim that they are not being heard on these issues.

Practo told to make its app disabled-friendly

'Private firms have to comply with terms of PwD Act'

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

The court of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) on Wednesday ordered Practo, the online healthcare service provider, to make its website and app fully accessible for the disabled, affirming that legal requirements and guidelines on accessibility applied to private companies.

"This court recommends that Respondent No. 1, i.e. Practo Technologies Pvt. Ltd. shall comply with the government guidelines and shall make necessary modifications within 6 months and not later than 9 months from receiving the copy of this Recommendation-Order, to its app and other Information & Communication Technology platforms to make such platforms accessible for *divyangjan* (sic)," the order of Commissioner for PwD Upma Srivastava said.

The CCPD was hearing a complaint filed by a lawyer with 100% visual impairment, Rahul Bajaj, regarding the website and app being inaccessible and not in compliance with accessibility standards. He said the app's home screen was unorganised and inaccessible with screen reading software, buttons were not labelled or had "nonsensical labels".

Mr. Bajaj also said Practo was not in compliance with Section 46 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Act, 2016, which sets a two-year timeline for service providers "whether government or private" to provide services in accordance with Central government accessibility rules.

Of enormous potential

The CCPD also recommended that the Director-General of Health Services under the Health Ministry should ensure that Practo was accessible for PwD.

Speaking to *The Hindu* on Friday, Mr. Bajaj, who is a co-founder of Mission Accessibility, said the order had enormous potential to change the lives of PwD. "The fight for digital accessibility is essentially for the disabled to be able to access products that others take for granted. It is not to be adversarial towards service providers, but rather to be solution-oriented," he said.

A Practo spokesperson did not respond for request for comment as of writing on Friday evening. However, in an earlier response, it reaffirmed its committment to making healthcare accessible and affordable for all.

SC seeks response on Ukraine war-hit students

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked for the government's response to a series of petitions to allow nearly 20,000 Ukraine-returned Indian medical students to complete their education in India. The students had to flee Ukraine in the face of Russian attacks.

The students are banking on a report submitted by the Lok Sabha Committee on External Affairs on August 3 in which the government had said it would consider accommodating them in private medical colleges in India as a one-time measure. However, a Bench led by Justice Hemant Gupta asked whether there would be enough seats available for 20,000 students. The court also orally remarked that these students had chosen to leave India for Ukraine.

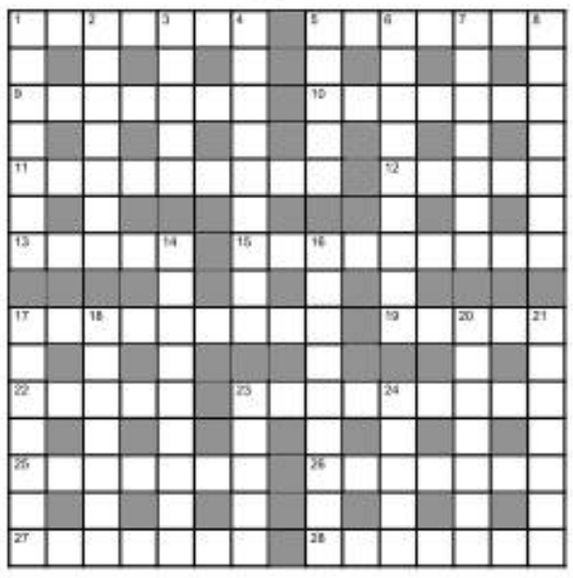
The court has listed the case again on September 5.

TH CROSSWORD + 13646

(set by Avtaar)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN



Across

1 Pot hidden in agent's outfit (7)
5 Make holes on end of frying pan (7)
9 Old rhyme by "Anonymous" from a foreign land (7)
10 Giant in women's cricket, perhaps (7)
11 Single ladies press it hard with tips of nails (9)
12 Yes, he basically incarcerated some people from 13 years ago (5)
13 Royal attendants having no love for country (5)
15 Keep off Spooner's tie collection (5,4)
17 Fare is wrong, per vendor (9)
19 Doctor starting to examine Avtaar's vision (5)
22 Oaxacan native leaving European region returns gemstone (5)
23 Enterprise concerned with protecting key measure of stock valuation (9)
25 ISO finally replacing yard in standard for current (7)
26 Tail of the mouse is stinging (7)
27 One out of every five scores? (7)
28 Secures anaesthetic in empty tubes (7)

Down

1 Old Russian revolutionary jogs near Kentucky, on vacation (7)
2 Inhumer dug up an extremely rare element (7)
3 Lastly, no reason to abandon British shelter (5)
4 Crossed desert, struggling with a virus — exhausted! (9)
5 Rap song about Western habits (5)
6 Hardy novel — sordid, intensely erotic and naughty, basically (4-5)
7 Mosquito-like insect found in sink a couple of times (7)
8 Tag section in E-boat (7)
14 Discharged zealot fighting with Chinese philosopher (9)
16 Green Team breaks contract (9)
17 Jars lean over and break (3,4)
18 Operating with soft copy — ultimately easier, supposedly (2,5)
20 Jinx of the vile Yemeni (4,3)
21 Flashes from empty U-boat stuck in trenches (7)
23 Young bird with large cutting toe flies (5)
24 Touching neighbour with love at heart (5)

SUDOKU

	1	5					7	
				2	1			
			4	6		1		8
	9	1	2				8	
		2		7		5		
	8				5	4	2	
4		7		5	8			
			9	3				
	5					8	3	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13645

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	9	2	1	7	6	3	4	8
1	4	8	2	3	5	6	9	7
7	6	3	9	4	8	5	1	2
8	5	7	6	9	1	4	2	3
6	3	9	4	2	7	1	8	5
2	1	4	5	8	3	9	7	6
3	2	1	7	5	9	8	6	4
9	7	5	8	6	4	2	3	1
4	8	6	3	1	2	7	5	9

FAITH

Duryodhana's jealousy

Duryodhana attends the Rajasuya yaga performed by Yudhishthira, and when he sees the grandeur of the proceedings, he is so jealous, that his heart is full of hatred and sorrow. He expresses his feelings to his uncle Sakuni, said Kidambi Narayanan, in a discourse. Duryodhana says that he feels like a pond which has dried up in the summer heat. All joy has dried up in his heart. He has seen Sisupala being killed by Krishna. He has seen kings bringing precious gifts to Yudhishthira. All that wealth seems unattainable to Duryodhana.

He wonders why he should continue to live. He asks if he should die by consuming poison. Or perhaps he should jump into a river. How can he obtain as much wealth as his cousin? He feels without the grace of God, nothing will happen. At the yaga, he had been so upset that he had wanted to kill Yudhishthira. But Yudhishthira was unaffected by anything. He was like a lotus leaf floating on water. He remained above emotional extremes.

Duryodhana, even in the midst of his angry outbursts, makes one salient point. He says only Fate will prevail in life. Duryodhana has seen the support Yudhishthira had from kings and scholars. He feels he has no one on his side. What then is the purpose of living, he asks his uncle. He also asks him to convey to Dhritarashtra how miserable his son is. Sakuni says if Fate is kind to the Pandavas now, it may not be so always. Sakuni counsels Duryodhana and tells him that the Pandavas had been given their share of the kingdom, and they had expanded their territory. No one can be criticised for making an effort to succeed. Why should Duryodhana be sorry that they have augmented their wealth? Duryodhana also has many strengths, and he can use them to his advantage, instead of constantly thinking about the Pandavas.

Redacted affidavit in Trump raid released

The FBI document offers justification for the search of ex-President's estate that yielded classified papers

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

The Justice Department on Friday released a heavily-redacted copy of the affidavit that persuaded a U.S. judge to authorise an FBI search of the Florida residence of former President Donald Trump.

Government lawyers had opposed the release of the affidavit but the judge ordered it unsealed with redactions the Justice Department said were necessary to protect an ongoing investigation involving national security.

FBI agents raided Mr. Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Florida on August 8, seizing boxes containing a large amount of highly classified documents that Mr. Trump had not returned to the government despite multiple requests and a subpoena to do so.

New details: A journalist with the heavily blacked out document released by the Justice Department on Friday. •AP

The unredacted version of the affidavit likely explains what the department is investigating in relation to Mr. Trump and could possibly reveal sources.

But Judge Bruce Reinhart accepted Justice Department arguments that there was a "compelling" need to mask significant portions of the document.

"The government is conducting a criminal investigation concerning the improper removal and storage of classified information in unauthorised spaces, as well as the unlawful concealment or removal of government records," an FBI agent wrote on the first page of the affidavit in seeking a judge's permission for a warrant to search the property.

The warrant for the raid cited three criminal statutes, including one falling under the Espionage Act, which makes it a crime to illegally obtain or retain national security information, and another on obstruction of a federal investigation.

Mr. Trump, who is weighing another White House run in 2024, has vehemently denounced the FBI raid.

"The political Hacks and Thugs had no right under the Presidential Records Act to storm Mar-a-Lago and steal everything in sight, including Passports and privileged documents," Mr. Trump said on social media on Friday.

(With AP inputs)

China pledges support to Sri Lanka at UNHRC session

Envoy slams 'the rude interference from third parties'

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Weeks ahead of the UN Human Rights Council session in Geneva, where a resolution on Sri Lanka is expected to be tabled, China has said it would "continue to support" Sri Lanka in international fora, while slamming countries "far or near" for "bullying" the island nation.

"China has always been supporting Sri Lanka in the international fora for protecting its sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. We will continue to do that. In contrast, some countries, far or near, always make various groundless excuses to bully Sri Lanka and trample on Sri Lanka's sovereignty and independence repeatedly," Ambassador Qi Zhenhong said in an article for the local portal *Sri Lanka Guardian*, published subsequently on the Chinese Embassy's website on Friday.

His remarks come even as Sri Lanka awaits China's response to its request for bridge loans to tide over the country's enduring economic crisis. While Beijing announced a $74 million grant in May, it is yet to respond to Colombo's appeal for urgent help reportedly to the tune of $4 billion. Further, Colombo is anxiously seeking China's cooperation to restructure its foreign debt, a process that could impact its chances of securing crucial assistance from the International Monetary Fund.

Chinese envoy Qi Zhenhong, left, in front of *Yuan Wang 5* at Hambantota port. •AFP

Drawing attention to two recent China-related news developments, the top Chinese diplomat referenced U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's "sneaky visit" to Taiwan, and the support "from over 170 countries", including Sri Lanka, to the 'One-China Principle'. He also highlighted the "successful" docking of Chinese military vessel *Yuan Wang 5* at Sri Lanka's southern Hambantota Port after China and Sri Lanka "altogether resisted the rude and unreasonable interference from third parties". The ship deferred its arrival by a few days on Sri Lanka's request, after India and U.S. raised concern over its visit, and left on August 22 after a week in Hambantota.

Linking developments in Taiwan with the Chinese vessel's visit to Sri Lanka, the Ambassador said though they may seem "irrelevant and thousands of miles apart", both "share a same great significance" between China and Sri Lanka, that is to "jointly safeguard each other's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity."

Human Rights

Referring to the coming session – the51st – of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, Mr. Qi said human rights issues in Sri Lanka "might probably be stirred up again". Pointing to Sri Lankans grappling with "severe economic and humanitarian difficulties", many might wonder what those countries who have been always "preaching" about human rights will actually do. "Will they help Sri Lanka to ease its human rights crisis by providing concrete support? Or will they again use human rights as a cover-up tool to interfere into the island nation's internal affairs and continue to rub salt into the wound of Sri Lankan people? Just let's wait and see," he said.

In March 2021, the HRC adopted a resolution titled "Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka' with 22 of its 47 members voting for the resolution. China voted against it, backing Sri Lanka, while India abstained.

British households face skyrocketing energy costs

U.K. regulator announces 80% hike in energy price cap

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
LONDON

With winter approaching, Britons were told that the average household's gas and electricity costs could skyrocket come October, as Ofgem, the U.K.'s energy regulator, announced that the energy price cap – the maximum energy tariff consumers can pay – increased by 80% on the back of higher wholesale energy prices.

The price cap increase, to £3,549 ($4,201 or ₹3,35,412), was due to a continued increase in wholesale gas prices, which began as the world emerged from pandemic lockdowns and has been exacerbated by Russia restricting gas supplies to Europe, according to a statement from Ofgem.

The hike, while expected, comes as the U.K. is experiencing double digit consumer inflation (10.1% in July), moving into recession, and dealing with a leadership vacuum in Downing Street, with Prime Minister Boris Johnson on the way out and a successor yet to be named.

The hike was due to a continued increase in wholesale gas prices. •AFP

New PM's action crucial

"The Government support package is delivering help right now, but it's clear the new Prime Minister will need to act further to tackle the impact of the price rises that are coming in October and next year," Ofgem CEO Jonathan Brealey said.

U.K. Foreign Secretary, Liz Truss, the frontrunner for the Conservative Party's leadership and the post of Prime Minister, is planning a reversal of national insurance and getting rid of the environmental levies on energy bills.

Ms. Truss's opponent, former Chancellor Rishi Sunak, had said he would stop VAT payments on energy bills.

"I am begging and praying and pleading that there is more government help this winter so that people do not die," Martin Lewis, a budget and saving specialist, told the BBC.

The next Prime Minister's name will be announced on September 5.

Britain is a friend of France, says Macron

He was responding to Truss's remarks

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
LONDON

French President Emmanuel Macron reaffirmed his country's friendship with Britain but warned that the two countries were going to have "serious problems" if they could not agree on whether they were friends. His comments were in response to U.K. Foreign Secretary and frontrunner in the Prime Ministerial race Liz Truss saying that it wasn't clear whether Mr. Macron was a friend or foe of U.K.

"Britain is a friend of France, I don't doubt that for a second," Mr. Macron told reporters during a visit to Algiers. "If France and Britain cannot say whether they are friends or enemies ...then we are headed for serious problems," he added.

Mr. Macron said the U.K. was a friendly country, regardless of its leaders and "sometimes, in spite of its leaders".

Ms. Truss's comments about the leader of one of Britain's closest allies, were made at the Conservative Party hustings in Norwich on Thursday and have added significance as she is the frontrunner in the contest with former Chancellor Rishi Sunak, for the leadership of the party and the Prime Minister's post.

"The jury's out," Ms Truss said, to cheers and claps from the audience, when she was asked, "President Macron: friend or foe?"

"If I become Prime Minister, I'll judge him on deeds, not words," she added.

Ms. Truss's words made the news earlier this week as well when, at Tuesday's Birmingham hustings, she said she was "ready" to push the U.K.'s nuclear button if she had to as Prime Minister.

China, Russia threatening the world order: Taiwan President

Tsai meets U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn in Taipei

ASSOCIATED PRESS
TAIPEI

Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen on Friday said China and Russia are "disrupting and threatening the world order" with Beijing's recent large-scale military exercises near the island and Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

Ms. Tsai was speaking during a meeting in Taipei with U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn, who is on the second visit by members of Congress since House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's trip earlier this month.

"These developments demonstrate how authoritarian countries are disrupting and threatening the world order," Ms. Tsai said.

Ms. Blackburn, a Republican from Tennessee, reaffirmed shared values between the two governments and said she "looked forward to continuing to support Taiwan as they push forward as an independent nation."

Xi Jinping, China's president, "will not stop threatening the safety and security of Taiwan simply because it would be in everyone's best interest to do so," she said. "He is not a normal leader. And he has no interest in normal reactions or normal relations with the rest of the world."

Ms. Blackburn, a supporter of former President Donald Trump, said, "We must stand against the Chinese Communist Party."

Biden rallies for Democrats, slams 'semi-fascism' in GOP

ASSOCIATED PRESS
ROCKVILLE

President Joe Biden called on Democrats on Thursday "to vote to literally save democracy once again" – and compared Republican ideology to "semi-fascism" – as he led a rally and a fundraiser in Maryland ahead of the midterm elections.

Addressing a crowd of thousands at Richard Montgomery High School in Rockville, Mr. Biden said: "Your right to choose is on the ballot this year. The Social Security you paid for from the time you had a job is on the ballot. The safety of your kids from gun violence is on the ballot, and it's not hyperbole, the very survival of our planet is on the ballot."

"You have to choose," he added. "Will we be a country that moves forward or one that moves backward?"

Mr. Biden is aiming to turn months of accomplishments into political energy as Democrats have seen their hopes rebound amid the legacy-defining burst of action by Mr. Biden and Congress.

From bipartisan action on gun control, infrastructure and domestic technology manufacturing to Democrats-only efforts to tackle climate change and health care costs, Mr. Biden highlighted the achievements of the party's unified but razor-thin control of Washington. And he tried to sharpen the contrast with Republicans, who once seemed poised for sizable victories in November.

Pak. declares emergency as flood toll rises to 937

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan government has declared a national emergency as rain-induced floods have so far killed 937 people, including 343 children, and left at least 30 million without shelter.

Sindh Province reported the highest number of deaths as 306 people lost their lives due to floods and rain-related incidents from June 14 to Thursday, according to the National Disaster Management Authority.

Balochistan reported 234 deaths whereas Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab Province recorded 185 and 165 deaths, respectively.

In Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, 37 people were killed while nine deaths were reported in the Gilgit-Baltistan region during the current monsoon rains.

Pakistan received 166.8 mm of rain in August, as opposed to the average of 48 mm.

Sadr camp for suspension of Parliament

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS
BAGHDAD

Populist Shia cleric Moqtada Sadr's camp on Friday refiled a petition for Iraq's judiciary to suspend Parliament to clear the way for fresh elections amid a months-long political deadlock.

As thousands of Sadr supporters gathered for Friday prayers, a source within the judiciary said it would give its response on Tuesday to the second such motion within a month.

Last Sunday, the judiciary said that it lacks the authority to dissolve Parliament as demanded by Sadr, who is engaged in a standoff with Shia rivals.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

1) E-TENDER NOTICE No. V/TRD-OT/07/2022-23, DATED: 23.08.2022; Name of work: TVC Division - Modification of existing IOL type NS to PTFE type NS at KZK/FP and at 2 Sectioning Posts; Tender Value: ₹ 1,43,44,495.45; Period of Completion: 180 days; Date and Time of Tender closing: 22.09.2022 @ 14.00 hrs.

2) E-TENDER NOTICE No. V/TRD-OT/08/2022-23, DATED: 24.08.2022; Name of work: TVC Division - OHE Modification in connection with raising of platform at various stations; Tender Value: ₹ 29,41,549.67; Period of Completion: 180 days; Date and Time of Tender closing: 23.09.2022 @ 14.00 hrs.

Complete Details and Tender document will be available http://www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD)/, Thiruvananthapuram

Follow us on twitter.com/GMSRailway

WORKS DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE (R&B), BALASORE

e-mail:- seec_bls@rediffmail.com

Government of Odisha **"e" Procurement Notice**

Bid Identification No. CCEEC-10/2022-23

No.4164 / Dt.26.08.22

Nature of work	:-	Building Works
Number of works	:-	5 (Five) No Buildings
Amount put to Tender	:-	Rs.302.38 Lakh to Rs.317.53 Lakh
Class of Contractor	:-	"A" Class / "Special" Class
Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal.	:-	Dt.30.08.2022 at 10.00 AM
Last Date / Time of receipt of bid in the portal	:-	Dt.13.09.2022 up to 05.00 PM
Date of opening of bid	:-	Dt.14.09.2022 at 11.00 AM
Name & address of the Office inviting bid	:-	Chief Construction Engineer, Eastern Circle (R&B), Balasore.

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http//tendersodisha.gov.in". All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE mode only.

Sd/- R.Rout,
Chief Construction Engineer, Eastern Circle (R&B), Balasore

B-520 OIPR-34026/11/0913/2223

ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED ELCOT

(602, II Floor, M.H.U. Complex, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035 e-mail: md@elcot.in URL: www.elcot.in)

TENDER NOTICE

ELCOT invites bids for supply of the following tenders

Tender No.	ELCOT/Proc/OT/33588/SI for Setting Up Cyber Lab/ 2022-23	ELCOT/Proc/OT/33578/ DMP (DM&RHS)/2022-23
Tender Details	Selection of System Integrator for designing, developing and establishing forensic investigating labs for Cyber Crime Wing	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Dot Matrix Printers for Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services
Pre- Bid Meeting	05.09.2022 @ 11.00 AM	01.09.2022 @ 11.00 AM
Tender Submission Due date and Time	07.10.2022 @ 03.00 PM	14.09.2022 @ 03.00 PM
Tender Opening Date & Time	07.10.2022 @ 04.00 PM	14.09.2022 @ 04.00 PM
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 10,00,000/-	Rs. 80,000/-
e-Portal Charges	Rs.11,800/-	Rs.11,800/-

The Bidders may download the tender documents, help documents and user manuals from https://tntenders.gov.in

DIPR/ 3503 /TENDER/2022 MANAGING DIRECTOR

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY

SPECIAL BUILDINGS DIVISION -II

PWD, PUDUCHERRY

No.13/PW/SBD-II/DB/Tender/2022-23 Dated 26.08.2022

PRESS NOTICE FOR e-Tender

On behalf of the President of India, e-tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Special Buildings Division-II, PWD, Puducherry for **"Restoration of Heritage Educational Institutions Pensionnat de Jeunes Filles at Puducherry (Second Call) at estimate cost put to tender of Rs.7,57,95,564/- (inclusive of 18% GST)**. The Tender Notification/Press Notice is published in the website **http://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app** and **https://pudutenders.gov.in.** The NIT & other related documents will be available only in the website **https://pudutenders.gov.in.** from 27.08.2022.

No.242/DIP/AD/Press)/2022-23 **Executive Engineer**

Government of Rajasthan
National Health Mission, Rajasthan
Department of Medical, Health & FW, Swasthya Bhawan, Jaipur
Tel. No. 0141-2221590, Email ID: md-nrhm-rj@nic.in

F2(177)/NHM/H&WC/Desktop/2021-22/164 Date: 18/08/2022

INVITATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

E-Bids for 'Supply, installation & commissioning of IT equipments' are invited from recognized bidders till 2:00 p.m. on 23.09.2022. The details and other particulars of the bid are available on the State public procurement portal **https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** and **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** and the department website **http://rajswasthya.nic.in**

UBN No.:- MHS2223GLOB02960 (Dr. Prithvi)
Dipr/C/10836 Mission Director, NHM

भारत सरकार
अंतरिक्ष विभाग
राष्ट्रीय सुदूर संवेदन केंद्र
हैदराबाद – 500 037, तेलंगाना भारत
टेलीफोन : +040-23884173 / 74
फैक्स : +040-23884179

Government of India
Department of Space
National Remote Sensing Centre
Balanagar, Hyderabad – 500 037, Telangana, India
Telephone: +040-23884173 / 74
Fax: +040-23884179

निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह / CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
ई निविदा नोटिस / e-Tender Notice

समूहप्रधान, सीएमजी, एनआरएससी, हैदराबाद द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए ऑन-लाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

Online tenders are invited by the Gr. Head CMG, NRSC, Hyderabad for the following works:

एनआईटीसी. NIT No	कार्य का नाम/Name of work	अनुमानित प्राक्कलित लागत / Approximate Estimated Cost(Rs.)	निविदा दस्तावेज डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/ Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	बोली अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि/ Last date for Bid uploading
NRSC/CMG/ NIT/ET/22/2445 R-AC/2022-23	इंजेनीओस सुविध, एनआरएससी, राजनगर परिसर में डेटा केंद्र के लिए वातानुकूलन सुविधा एवं ब्लॉक बी व सी का हैरिजेंटल विस्तार प्रदान करना। Providing Air Conditioning facility for DATA Centre -Horizontal Extension of Block B and C at IMGEOS facility, NRSC Campus Shadnagar	113.51 लाख/ Lakhs	From: 27.08.2022से To: 03.09.2022 तक	Upto 06.09.2022 16:00 बजे/Hrs तक

विस्तृत एनआईटी एवं पात्रता मानदंड ईएमडी बोली संबंधित प्रलेख आदि www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO पोर्टल से देखा/डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। किसी प्रकार के संशोधन, समय विस्तार, स्पष्टीकरण आदि वेबसाइट पर अपलोड किया जाएगा और किसी समाचारपत्र में प्रकाशित नहीं किया जाएगा। बोलीकर्ता अद्यतन जानकारी हेतु नियमित रूप से वेबसाइट देखें।

Detailed NIT and eligibility criteria, EMD bidding document, etc. can be viewed /download from www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO portal. All amendments, time extension, clarifications, etc. will be uploaded on website and will not be published in newspapers. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated.

-Sd-
समूह प्रधान / Group Head
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह/ Construction & Maint. Group

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru - 560092.

No:BBMP/YNK/EE (Project)/TEND/14/2022-23 Date: 26-08-2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) - (SHORT TERM)

(Two Cover System) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (Project Division), Yelahanka Zone, BBMP invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP / KPWD / CPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organization for the Construction of works detailed below.

(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Up gradation, Maintenance and New Landscape Development of Parks at Yelahanka Lake Park, Lalbahuddur Shasthry Park, SFS 407, 4th Main Road Parks, Basavalingappa Park, Deo Marvel Layout Park, Maasthi Venktesha Iyangar Park, 'A' Sector 3rd and 4th Main in Yelahanka New Town Parks, Aralikatte, Sharadha Nagara Arch Park, Amogha Varshini Park, Judicial Layout Parks, 'A' Sector 11th Main and 5th Cross Parks and Median at Allalasandra Road. **(CALL-2)**	441.93	6.70

Calendar of Events: 1) The tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Portal Website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** 2) Date and Time for Pre Bid Meeting: **03-09-2022 at 4.00 PM.** 3) Last Date and Time for Queries (through online only): **05-09-2022 upto 3.00 PM.** 4) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **06-09-2022 upto 4.00 PM.** 5) Opening of Technical Bid: **07-09-2022 at 4.30 PM.** 6) Opening of Financial Bid:**12-09-2022 at 4.00 PM (if Possible).** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone, BBMP.

PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE

Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

MARKET WATCH

	26-08-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	58,834	0.10
US Dollar	79.84	0.10
Gold	52,031	-0.50
Brent oil	99.38	-1.72

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	837.70	21.70
Apollo Hosp	4215.25	46.45
Asian Paints	3323.55	-38.95
Axis Bank	744.90	1.55
Bajaj Auto	4054.40	-8.55
Bajaj Finserv	16286.00	39.70
Bajaj Finance	7062.10	14.95
Bharti Airtel	730.85	-10.15
BPCL	329.10	-0.70
Britannia Ind	3650.15	3.55
Cipla	1020.80	-4.95
Coal India	229.95	5.05
Divis Lab	3587.50	51.65
Dr Reddys Lab	4223.30	-14.60
Eicher Motors	3355.10	-126.35
Grasim Ind	1675.25	50.40
HCL Tech	945.65	1.85
HDFC	2396.70	-21.05
HDFC Bank	1465.10	0.25
HDFC Life	566.90	-4.15
Hero MotoCorp	2826.75	26.95
Hindalco	440.05	7.30
Hind Unilever	2571.55	-2.65
ICICI Bank	870.85	-1.50
Indusind Bank	1069.75	-20.20
Infosys	1521.55	3.40
ITC	312.90	0.55
JSW Steel	667.00	18.30
Kotak Bank	1902.05	33.30
L&T	1905.40	27.50
M&M	1274.65	15.00
Maruti Suzuki	8720.60	-15.30
Nestle India Ltd.	19528.10	1.45
NTPC	163.40	4.50
ONGC	136.65	0.10
PowerGrid Corp	230.45	4.15
Reliance Ind	2618.00	-14.05
SBI Life	1313.70	16.70
State Bank	523.80	3.40
Shree Cement	22097.90	385.30
Sun Pharma	880.15	2.85
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	801.95	0.10
Tata Motors	465.05	5.85
Tata Steel	107.35	1.10
TCS	3222.20	4.00
Tech Mahindra	1085.55	14.95
Titan	2532.90	66.45
UltraTech Cement	6517.15	42.10
UPL	760.00	-2.65
Wipro	417.25	2.05

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 26

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.67	79.99
Euro	79.61	79.96
British Pound	94.20	94.61
Japanese Yen (100)	58.17	58.41
Chinese Yuan	11.61	11.66
Swiss Franc	82.61	82.95
Singapore Dollar	57.30	57.54
Canadian Dollar	61.57	61.82
Malaysian Ringitt	17.82	17.91
Australian Dollar	55.55	55.78

Source:Indian Bank

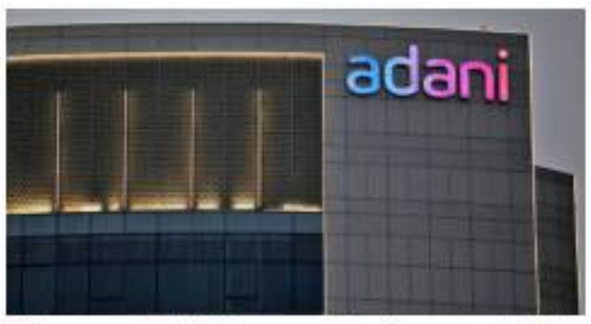
RRPR is obligated to transfer NDTV shares: Adani Group

'NDTV promoter firm not party to SEBI order of 2020, not under any restraint'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Adani Group subsidiary Vishvapradhan Commercial Private Ltd. (VCPL) has responded to a stock exchange filing by NDTV promoter firm RRPR and contended that RRPR was not a party to the SEBI order dated November 27, 2020, and that it was not under any restraint by the market regulator.

It also asserted that RRPR was bound to comply with its contractual obligations.



Giving no quarter: NDTV says promoters Prannoy and Radhika Roy were restrained from dealing in securities. • REUTERS

'Binding contract'

"The warrant exercise notice has been issued by VCPL under a contract which is binding on RRPR," VCPL stressed in its response.

VCPL is a wholly owned subsidiary of AMG Media Network Ltd. (AMNL), which is owned by the group's flagship Adani Enterprises Ltd.

"Performance of obligations by RRPR pursuant to the warrant exercise notice will not result in violation of the SEBI order... VCPL therefore does not agree with RRPR that prior written approval from SEBI is required for allotment of shares to VCPL on exercise of warrants," VCPL asserted.

"Further, on August 23, 2022, the amount of ₹1,99,00,000, being the amount payable for the 19,90,000 equity shares of RRPR pursuant to exercise of warrants, has been paid by VCPL and received by RRPR," the Adani unit said.

NDTV had on Thursday contended in a filing that the Adani Group may not be able to complete its deal to buy RRPR Holdings as founders Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy had been restrained from dealing in securities by the market regulator SEBI in an order passed in 2020.

'India keen to know more on Russian oil price cap plan'

Transparency to aid even nations not in coalition: Adeyemo

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India has evinced interested in learning more about joining the global price cap coalition proposed by the G7 countries to rein in Russian fuel prices, Deputy Secretary of U.S. Treasury Wally Adeyemo said on Friday, emphasising that even countries that don't join the coalition would benefit from the transparency it would create about prices paid for Russian crude oil.

A price-capping mechanism will be in place by Dec. for Russian oil export

"The value proposition is simple," said Mr. Adeyemo. "Ultimately, countries shouldn't have to pay more for crude oil because of Russia's war in Ukraine. We want to ensure that Russia would have to sell into the price cap coalition so we are going to take away the excess revenues they are earning because of the risk premium they have created in the market," he added.

As per a plan by G7 nations, a price-capping mechanism will be put in place for Russian oil exports before December 5, after which European service providers intend to stop providing insurance cover for Russian crude oil transportation by sea. "What the price cap exception does is you can still use European services if you are buying the Russian oil shipments underneath this price," the visiting U.S. official said, adding that Europe had almost 90% of the market for such insurance.

Mr. Adeyemo, who met Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday, said Indian policymakers he had met were 'very interested in learning more about the details' because their primary objective was to buy energy at the cheapest price possible for Indian consumers.

The price cap, he stressed, was a tool to meet the goal of reducing Russian revenues while keeping fuel supplies running.

Rupee to stay under pressure despite RBI support: SocGen

Firm flags slowing global growth, Fed's rate stance as risks

REUTERS
MUMBAI

The rupee is likely to struggle against the dollar as slowing global growth and the Federal Reserve's interest rate stance overshadow Reserve Bank of India's intervention, Societe Generale said in a note on Friday.

"The RBI is likely to intervene at key levels such as 80," Kunal Kundu, economist at Societe Generale, wrote in the note. "However... such interventions would provide opportunities to buy on dips in the USD/INR, rather than establish sustained INR strength vs the USD."

The rupee closed at 79.84 per U.S. dollar on Friday, slightly stronger than the previous session's 79.92.

The rupee has been hovering just above the 80 levels in recent sessions on the back of expectations that the RBI will sell dollars to keep the currency from falling below its record low of 80.0650.

The return of foreign portfolio flows to equity has kept the rupee buoyed. Foreign inflows into Indian equities have hit almost $6 billion so far in August.

"We believe the global growth slowdown story could act as a headwind to positive equity inflow momentum," Mr. Kundu said.

In addition, a failure by the Federal Reserve to pivot to a dovish stance and reinstate its objective to contain inflation, would reverse some of the recent momentum in equity portfolio inflows, he pointed out.

Fed officials have kept a fairly hawkish tone following softer-than-forecast July inflation data, in a bid to push back against expectations it could cut rates next year.

Moderna sues Pfizer over vaccine patent

REUTERS

Moderna is suing Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech for patent infringement in the development of the first COVID-19 vaccine approved in the United States, alleging they copied technology that Moderna developed years before the pandemic.

Pfizer shares fell 1.4% before the bell while BioNTech was down about 2%. Moderna alleges Pfizer/BioNTech, without permission, copied mRNA technology that Moderna had patented between 2010 and 2016, well before COVID-19 emerged in 2019 and exploded in early 2020. Pfizer said the company had not been served and that they were unable to comment at this time.

Essar to sell port, power units to AM/NS for $2.4 bn

Deal also envisages a 50:50 LNG JV

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Essar Group said its entities have signed definitive agreements for divesting port, power and other logistics and infrastructure assets in India to ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS) for a net value of $2.4 billion (₹19,000 crore).

The transaction is expected to be funded only by AM/NS India. The assets are either captive, including port assets in Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, or allied to AM/NS India's steelmaking and would strengthen the strategic integration of the company's manufacturing and logistics chain, AM/NS said.

"Full ownership of the strategically-located port assets in Gujarat, Visakhapatnam and Paradip will ensure seamless connectivity and supply chain security for movement of raw materials and finished goods between AM/NS India's manufacturing facilities", the firm said. "Acquisition of power and transmission assets will ensure cost-effective power supply at Hazira."

The deal also envisages a 50:50 joint venture, for building a 4 MTPA LNG terminal at Hazira.

Adani unveils open offer for ACC, Ambuja

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Adani Group on Friday unveiled a ₹31,000-crore open offer to acquire 26% additional stake from the public shareholders of Swiss firm Holcim's two Indian listed entities ACC Ltd. and Ambuja Cements.

In May, the Adani Group had announced it had clinched a deal to acquire a controlling stake in Holcim Ltd's businesses in India for $10.5 billion.

Markets regulator SEBI granted approval for the open offer last week. The open offer is estimated at more than ₹31,000 crore if fully subscribed. Ambuja Cements and ACC currently have a combined production capacity of 70 million tonne per annum.

IN BRIEF

NTPC okays ₹11,843-cr. investment in power unit

NEW DELHI

The board of directors of the state-run power giant NTPC has approved an investment worth ₹11,843.75 crore in the 1,320 MW Talcher Thermal Power Project, Stage-III, according to a BSE filing of the utility. PTI

Prakash to head Renault Nissan Chennai plant

NEW DELHI

Japanese automaker Nissan said it has appointed Keerthi Prakash to lead operations of its Chennai-based plant. The plant, under the aegis of Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt. Ltd. (RNAIPL), caters to both Nissan and Renault brands. Mr. Prakash would take over as the managing director of RNAIPL from September 1. PTI

Digital lending rules said to spark disruption

'Norms set to hit Amazon, Flipkart'

REUTERS
MUMBAI

India's stricter digital lending rules have disrupted card services of foreign-backed fintech firms and jeopardised loan offerings of Amazon, prompting companies to chart a lobbying pushback, according to industry sources and a document seen by Reuters.

Citing concerns over high rates and unfair practices, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said a loan borrower must deal directly with a bank, dealing a blow to prepaid card providers and shopping websites which act as intermediaries.

India's digital-lending market has grown quickly and facilitated $2.2 billion in digital loans in 2021-22.

Worries are also rising that the rules will throttle plans of bigger players Amazon.com Inc. and Walmart's Flipkart to expand their buy-now-pay-later schemes.

"It is likely that seamlessness of availing credit by the customer will be severely impacted," the Internet and Mobile Association of India, a group representing Amazon and Flipkart, said. It plans to push the RBI to carve out direct merchant payments as an exception under the new rules.

Study moots common retail trade criteria

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

India should have common standards for offline and online retail businesses to safeguard critical customer factors such as choice, convenience, price and quality, according to a study conducted by the Bharti Institute of Public Policy (BIPP), Indian School of Business (ISB) in partnership with Empower India.

The report, titled 'Customer Centric E-commerce in India', was structured around four broad topics in e-commerce viz. foreign direct investment, business models, data and search, and taxation.

GeM eyes procurement of ₹2 lakh crore in FY23: Singh

CEO rues lower participation of southern States on portal

N. ANAND
CHENNAI

Government e-Marketplace (GeM), a national procurement portal, is eyeing annual procurement worth ₹2 lakh crore during FY23, following a buoyancy in its adoption, said Prasanth Kumar Singh, CEO.

"In the first four months of the current fiscal, we did a gross merchandise value (GMV) of ₹60,000 crore and hence, ₹2 lakh crore is achievable," he said in an interview.

While terming the growth of public procurement as 'phenomenal,' he said since inception, it took almost four-and-a-half years to reach the first ₹1 lakh crore (March 2021), while in the last fiscal, the GMV was ₹1.7 lakh crore. The cumulative GMV till date has been ₹2.86 lakh crore. He said such growth was possible on account of the 'huge' participation by buyers viz. central/State governments, central/State PSUs and MSEs, in the ratio of 30%, 30% and 40%, respectively.

Prasanth Kumar Singh

Incidentally, it is mandatory for central government and PSUs to make procurement through the GeM.

However, Mr. Singh said the participation of southern States in GeM was lower, as they had their own portals and likely felt opening doors [to GeM] would be detrimental to the sellers.

'Backlog to keep PV sales robust in Aug.'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Passenger vehicle (PV) sales are expected to be robust in August on account of large pending orders with various companies and production ramp up, according to a report.

Besides, two-wheeler volumes are also expected to improve, owing to festive demand and inventory build-up with dealers, said brokerage firm Emkay Global Financial Services.

However, tractor volumes may decline due to subdued sentiment caused by an uneven spread of monsoons and lower Kharif sowing acreage.

SPORT

Manu wins Chennai Open in style

Registers a handsome four-shot victory; Thangaraja finishes second

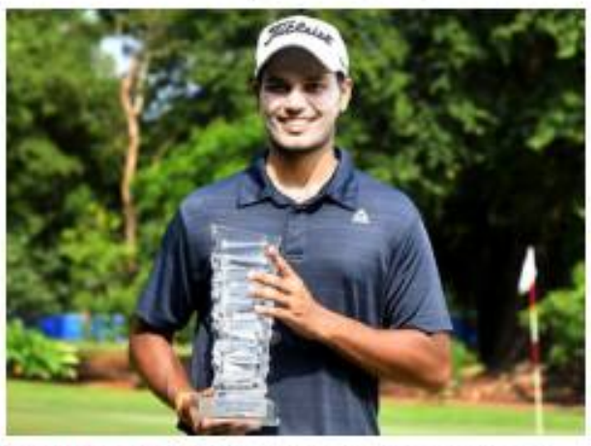
GOLF

K. KEERTHIVASAN
CHENNAI

Those who have watched Manu Gandas on the golf course say he has a zen-like approach towards winning and losing.

The 26-year-old from DLF Golf & Country Club, though not in the best of form, showed consistency and composure with N. Thangaraja of Sri Lanka closing-in, to win the Impiger Technologies-Chennai Open golf tournament at the Cosmo-TNGF course here on Friday.

Manu scored a convincing four-shot victory with a five-under 67 for a four-day total of 20-under 268 for his fourth PGTI title and a purse of ₹6 lakh. With this victory, Manu has consolidated his third position on the PGTI Order of Merit.



Having the last laugh: Consistency was Manu's forte as he emerged the best. • B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Thangaraja took the second place at 16-under 272, following his final-round effort of 72.

Bengaluru's Khalin Joshi (68) and Chandigarh's Abhijit Singh Chadha (71) were tied third at 15-under 273, while Karandeep Kochhar (70) finished fifth.

Lying second overnight, Manu started with a chip-in birdie on the first hole and maintained par till the eighth hole.

He had his second birdie on the ninth hole. In the back-nine, Manu struggled a bit but maintained his lead with timely birdies on the 13th, 16th and 18th.

Key factor

Manu said his tee shots were the key to his title.

"The most important things for me over the last one year have been identifying my shortcomings and the consistency with which I've followed my processes.

"I took a month off from the game during the mid-season break to fully recover from my injuries and that really helped in the end.

"My driving and tee shots were the best aspect of my game this week."

The scores: 1. Manu Gandas 268 (68, 65, 68, 67); 2. N. Thangaraja (SL) 272 (66, 67, 67, 72); 3. Khalin Joshi 273 (67, 68, 70, 68); Abhijit Singh Chadha 273 (71, 65, 66, 71); 5. Karandeep Kochhar 274 (65, 71, 68, 70).

Ogbeche stars as Hyderabad beats Chennaiyin

Halder scores the winner for Jamshedpur against holder FC Goa

DURAND CUP

SPORTS BUREAU

Bartholomew Ogbeche scored a brace as Hyderabad rallied to beat a 10-man Chennaiyin FC 3-1 in an entertaining Group C match of the Durand Cup football tournament at the Khuman Lampak Stadium in Imphal on Friday.

Captain Anirudh Thapa gave Chennaiyin the lead in the 43rd minute before his opposite number Joao Victor converted a penalty in the 56th minute. Ogbeche shot home in the 65th and 74th minutes to ensure his team's second consecutive victory.

Chennaiyin grabbed the lead through a spectacular goal close to half-time. Sajal Bag sent in a long aerial ball and Thapa, strongly challenged by a defender, brought it down on the run before slotting it in despite being off-balance. Hyderabad drew parity early in the second half.

Marksmen: Ogbeche, second from left, and Victor, second from right, scored for Hyderabad.

Javier Siverio's header off an Akash Mishra cross fetched a penalty as defender Fallou Diagne was sent off for a debatable handball decision. Victor beat 'keeper Debjit Majumder on the right with a fast grounder.

Controlling the pace, Hyderabad got the lead when Mohammed Yasir sent in a precise cross into the area and Ogbeche headed it in.

The ISL champion extended its lead as Chhangte, positioned unchallenged inside the box, passed the ball back and Ogbeche jumped to score off another header.

Later in the day, at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata, Jamshedpur FC beat holder FC Goa 1-0 in Group A. Tapan Halder came in as a late substitute to net the only goal of the match in the 84th minute.

Jamshedpur had the best chance in the 72nd minute when it won a penalty but Goa goalkeeper Hrithik Tiwari thwarted the attempt by Vinil Poojary.

The results:

Group A: Jamshedpur FC 1 (Halder 84) bt FC Goa 0.

Group C: Hyderabad FC 3 (Victor 56, Ogbeche 65, 74) bt Chennaiyin FC 1 (Thapa 43).

Cream of Asian talent converges on UAE

Dubai to host most of the matches, Sharjah gets three; Hong Kong earns chance to play with the big boys

ASIA CUP

ASHWIN ACHAL
DUBAI

To suit the demands of the international cricket calendar, the Asia Cup has morphed into a flexible tournament. The first 12 editions of the tournament were held in the 50-over ODI format, until it was decided in 2016 to play the tournament on a rotation basis between T20I and ODI.

And thus, with the ICC Men's T20 World Cup scheduled to commence in a little less than two months, it only makes sense that the continental championship follows the shortest format.

The 15th edition of the Asia Cup will begin with a Group B match between Sri Lanka and Afghanistan at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium here on Saturday. Most of the tournament matches will be held at this venue, while the second venue – Sharjah Cricket Stadium – will host two group games and one Super Four outing.

India, which won the previous 2018 Asia Cup ODI edition, sits with Pakistan and Hong Kong in Group A. Regardless of the result of the much-anticipated India-Pakistan clash on Sunday, both sides should have little trouble qualifying for the Super Four stage.

It is almost certain that the arch rivals, set to finish as the best two in their group, will face each other for a second time in the Super Four.

India will hope that batter Virat Kohli turns the corner with a few big knocks. With the team management, led by skipper Rohit Sharma, keen on adopting an attacking brand of cricket, the onus is on the top-order of Rohit, K.L. Rahul and Kohli to come out blazing.

Pakistan, semifinalist at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup last year, depends heavily on Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan. Azam, in particular, will look to add weight to his burgeoning reputation as a world-class batter.

Hong Kong earned the right to rub shoulders with the big guns by winning the qualifier tournament in Oman.

Group B, comprising Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, presents a more even contest. Sri Lanka, having exited in the group stage in the previous two editions, will hope for a better show.

In Wanindu Hasaranga, the Lankans have a potent T20 cricketer who can win matches with his spin and lower-order batting. The second spinner, Maheesh Theekshana, can be useful in the PowerPlay.

With many of its players gaining experience in T20 leagues around the world, Afghanistan has what it takes to spring a surprise. The core strength lies in its spin attack of Rashid Khan, Mujeeb Ur Rahman and Mohammad Nabi. An inconsistent batting line-up, however, poses concerns.

On current form, Bangladesh sticks out as the weakest. The Tigers come in on the back of successive T20I series losses, against Zimbabwe and the West Indies. Experienced all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan returns as captain, after Nurul Hasan, Mosaddek Hossain and Mahmudullah took their shot at leadership.

The men's T20 World Cup held here last year showed that the toss plays a crucial factor in the outcome of the match. A clear winning formula emerged – win the toss, field first, and exploit the night dew when chasing.

Continental Cup chronicle

The 15th chapter of the Asia Cup opens in the UAE on Saturday. The competition has been held in the 50-over format 13 times and 20-over once (2016)

Year	Winner	Host
1984	India	UAE
1986	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
1988	India	Bangladesh
1990/91	India	India
1995	India	UAE
1997	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
2000	Pakistan	Bangladesh
2004	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
2008	Sri Lanka	Pakistan
2010	India	Sri Lanka
2012	Pakistan	Bangladesh
2014	Sri Lanka	Bangladesh
2016	India	Bangladesh
2018	India	UAE

SWEET SIX IN 2016

Scanning the record books: The format-wise numbers of the teams in the fray in 2022 (to be played in the 20-over version)

20-over	M	Won	Lost
India	5	5	0
Bangladesh	5	3	2
Pakistan	4	2	2
Sri Lanka	4	1	3
Afghanistan	3	2	1
Hong Kong	6	3	3

50-over	M	Won	Lost	Tied	NR
Sri Lanka	50	34	16	0	0
India	49	31	16	1	1
Pakistan	45	26	18	0	1
Bangladesh	43	7	36	0	0
Afghanistan	9	3	5	1	0
Hong Kong	6	0	6	0	0

INDIA'S HIGH-FLIERS

20-over	BATTING	50-over
Kohli (153, 4 inns)	Most runs	Tendulkar (971, 21 inns)
Rohit 83 (vs. Bangladesh, Mirpur), 2016	Highest	Kohli 183 (vs. Pakistan, Mirpur), 2012
	BOWLING	
Hardik (7, 5 inns)	Most wickets	Irfan Pathan (22, 12 inns)
Hardik 3/8 (vs. Pakistan, Mirpur), 2016	Best bowling	Arshad Ayub 5/21 (vs. Pakistan, Dhaka), 1988

Milestone moment: **Tendulkar's incredible feat (100th international hundred)** was achieved during India's Asia Cup meeting against Bangladesh in Mirpur (2012)

- **Kohli's 183** against Pakistan at Mirpur (2012) is his highest ODI score
- **When India went all the way in 2016,** it pulled clear of Sri Lanka which had also won five titles
- The Men in Blue were in seventh heaven when they **emerged champions in 2018**

STATISTICS INCLUDE QUALIFICATION ROUNDS

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO | COMPILED BY G. PRASAD

Sri Lanka and Afghanistan seek nations' catharsis in on-field battle

Geared up for action: Sri Lanka will be determined to add to its five titles. • AFP

AYAN ACHARYA
DUBAI

Saturday's Asia Cup 2022 opener between Afghanistan and Sri Lanka at the Dubai International Stadium will be a crisscross of torment and catharsis for both teams.

The fall of former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in July, which followed months of protests, was greeted with joy by many in Sri Lanka. However, even as the country tries to retain a semblance of normalcy, the remnants of an unprecedented economic crisis linger.

Meanwhile, it's been more than a year since the Taliban entered Kabul and took control of Afghanistan, which has now endured more than four decades of war.

Afghanistan's rise as a cricketing nation has been one of the most genuine feel-good stories. It no longer has to go into tournaments like the Asia Cup through the qualifying rounds.

Afghanistan qualified for the last T20 World Cup (2021), also played in the UAE, directly by being in the top eight on the cut-off date. This marks a real departure for a team that has, in recent years, evolved from an Associate nation to the embodiment of what can be achieved when ambition meets skill.

It helps that its fans are also likeable. Like 32-year-old Kaleem Khan, a cab driver, who has a poignant take on the situation back home and why cricket is important.

"I laugh when people say that sport and politics do not mix. Look at us, Afghans, and our struggles. We promote brotherhood and build relationships through playing. Aren't these political goals as well? Sports and politics were never apart," he says.

Speaking of politics, Afghanistan's opponent on Saturday, Sri Lanka is grappling with a crisis of its own. But cricket proved to be a solace. Recently, Australia's tour of Sri Lanka took place under the shadow of a crippling economic upheaval.

Sri Lanka has won the Asia Cup five times – 1986, 1997, 2004, 2008, 2014 – in the ODI format and the original official host of this year's Asia Cup will be eager to add its tally.

Afghanistan, on the other hand, will aim to give fans, reared on generations of heartache, a slice of unbridled joy and pride.

TODAY'S MATCH

Group B
Afghanistan vs. Sri Lanka
7.30 p.m. (IST), Dubai

Buoyant: Afghanistan will aim to give its fans a slice of unbridled joy and pride. • TWITTER

Neeraj triumphs in Lausanne

Qualifies for the Diamond League finals

SPORTS BUREAU

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra made athletics history in Lausanne on Friday by becoming the first Indian to win a Diamond League event.

The 24-year-old javelin thrower, who won the silver at the World Championships last month, opened with an impressive 89.08m and that turned out to be the winning throw in the end.

The victory also helped Neeraj qualify for the Diamond League finals in Zurich next month.

Neeraj, who missed the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham because of an injury, had three valid throws (85.18 in second and 80.04 in sixth) after passing his third and fifth attempts.

Dream start: Neeraj unleashed a winning throw of 89.08m in his opening attempt. • REUTERS

Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch, the Tokyo Olympic silver medallist who began as the top seed with a season best 90.88m, finished second 85.88 while American Curtis Thompson was third with 83.72.

FIFA lifts ban on AIFF, decks cleared for women's U-17 WC

AIFF acting general-secretary Dhar says the 'darkest hour of Indian football is finally over'

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

The Bureau of the FIFA Council announced on Friday that the suspension imposed on the All India Football Federation has been lifted, ending 11 days of exile for the Indian federation.

The suspension was imposed on AIFF by FIFA on August 15 owing "to undue third-party influence."

"The decision was taken after FIFA received confirmation that the mandate of the Committee of Administrators (CoA) that was set up to assume the powers of the AIFF Executive Committee had been terminated and that the AIFF administration had regained full control of the daily affairs.

Monitor the situation

"The FIFA and the AFC will continue to monitor the situation and will support the AIFF in organising its elections in a timely manner," said a FIFA statement.

"As a consequence, the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup scheduled to take place on Oct. 11 to 30, 2022, will be held in India as planned," it added.

PTI adds from New Delhi:

AIFF acting general-secretary Sunando Dhar welcomed the move and thanked FIFA, AFC and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur for their roles in lifting the ban.

"The darkest hour of Indian football is finally over. We sincerely thank FIFA and AFC, especially the AFC general-secretary Datuk Seri Windsor John for guiding us in such difficult times. We also take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, and the Sports Minister Anurag Thakur for solidly standing by us at this crucial juncture," Dhar said.

We thank FIFA, AFC and Sports Minister Thakur for their roles in lifting the ban
DHAR

Earlier this week, Dhar had requested FIFA secretary-general Fatma Samoura to "reconsider its decision of suspending the AIFF."

The AIFF elections will now be held on Sept. 2.

Vihari to lead South Zone

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

Hyderabad's Hanuma Vihari will lead South Zone in the Duleep Trophy cricket tournament. Mayank Agarwal has been named his deputy. The team was named after the selection committee meeting here.

The squad: Hanuma Vihari (Capt.), Mayank Agarwal (Vice-capt.), Rohan Kunnummal, Devdutt Padikal, Manish Pandey, B. Indrajith, Eknath Kerkar, Ricky Bhui, Sai Kishore, K. Gowtham, Basil Thampi, Ravi Teja, V.C. Stephen, Tanay Thyagarajan, and Lakshay Garg.

The schedule:
Quarterfinals: Sept. 8-11: West vs. North East (Chennai) and North vs. East (Puducherry);
Semifinals: Sept. 15 to 18: Central vs. winner of West/North East (Coimbatore) and South vs. winner of North/East (Salem); **Final: Sept. 21 to 25,** Coimbatore.

Stokes, Foakes boss South Africa

Their tons help England declare at 415 for nine, a lead of 264

SA IN ENGLAND

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MANCHESTER

Ben Stokes and Ben Foakes hit centuries on Friday to help England establish a commanding first-innings lead over South Africa after two days of the second Test at Old Trafford here.

Stokes made 103 for his first century as England full-time Test captain, and Foakes weighed in with 113 not out – his highest international knock – as they shared a sixth-wicket partnership of 173.

Foakes was still there when England declared on 415 for nine, with a first-innings advantage of 264 runs.

South Africa openers Dean Elgar (11) and Sarel Erwee (12) negotiated nine overs before stumps to close on 23 without loss. The Proteas were rolled over for 151 on day one.

South Africa leads the three-match series 1-0 after an innings win at Lord's last week.

The Bens toll: Foakes and Stokes put on 173 runs. • GETTY IMAGES

SCOREBOARD

South Africa – 1st innings: 151.

England – 1st innings: Alex Lees c Verreynne b Ngidi 4, Zak Crawley c Verreynne b Nortje 38, Ollie Pope b Nortje 23, Joe Root c Erwee b Rabada 9, Jonny Bairstow c Erwee b Nortje 49, Ben Stokes c Elgar b Rabada 103, Ben Foakes (not out) 113, Stuart Broad st. Verreynne b Harmer 21, Ollie Robinson c Markram b Maharaj 17, Jack Leach b Maharaj 11; Extras (b-6, lb-5, nb-6, w-10): 27; Total (for nine wkts. decl. in 106.4 overs): 415.

Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-34, 3-43, 4-134, 5-147, 6-320, 7-361, 8-395, 9-415.

South Africa bowling: Rabada 23-2-110-2, Ngidi 18-3-61-1, Nortje 20-1-82-3, Maharaj 22.4-4-78-2, Harmer 23-4-73-1.

South Africa – 2nd innings: Sarel Erwee (batting) 12, Dean Elgar (batting) 11; Total (for no loss in nine overs): 23.

England bowling: Anderson 2-1-5-0, Robinson 4-0-15-0, Leach 3-1-3-0.

'Serena is greatest of modern era'

Amritraj lauds the American's contribution to the sport

S. DIPAK RAGAV
CHENNAI

Serena Williams is all set to play her final Grand Slam of her storied career next week at the US Open and Indian tennis legend Vijay Amritraj called her the greatest player of the modern era.

Speaking at a media interaction organised by broadcaster Sony, Amritraj said, "what she has done for women's tennis is the single greatest achievement in any sport. You can compare the achievements of Tiger Woods, Carl Lewis, and Michael Schumacher but what the Williams sisters (Venus and Serena) have done for tennis supersedes all of them."

Incomparable: Amritraj says the contribution of Serena and Venus to tennis supersedes the achievements of legends like Woods, Schumacher and Lewis. • AP

Wide open field

Commenting on the women's field, Amritraj said, "the great thing about women's tennis is that it is wide open. Anyone can come and win and there will be upsets along the way. In Wimbledon, we saw the No. 17 seed Elena Rybakina win it even though Ons Jabeur was the favourite in the final."

In the absence of Novak Djokovic, the field is similarly open on the men's side and Amritraj felt it was time for one of the younger challengers to come to the fore.

"Missing Novak is a pity for the tournament and it is what it is. But the quality of tennis will be spectacular. We have to see if someone from the second line of attack like (Jannik) Sinner, (Carlos) Alcaraz or (Stefanos) Tsitsipas can step forward and win."

"Nadal, having won so much, will still be one of the favourites even at 80 %. But a lot will depend on how many sets he plays in the first week.

"If he has three-set matches in the first couple of rounds, he will continue to be the favourite," added the former India Davis Cup captain.

Watch the LIVE coverage of the US Open 2022 on Sony Six & Sony TEN 2 channels from August 29.

IN BRIEF

Bhambri knocked out in second round
NEW YORK
India's singles challenge at the US Open qualifiers came to an end as Yuki Bhambri was handed a straight-set defeat by Belgium's Zizou Bergs in the second round here. The 30-year-old went down 6-3, 6-2 to his Belgian opponent on Thursday. On Wednesday, Ramkumar Ramanathan and Sumit Nagal made early exits after losing in straight sets. PTI

Linthoi wins historic judo gold
NEW DELHI
India's Linthoi Chanambam claimed a historic gold at the World cadet judo championship in Sarajevo, becoming the first from the country to win a medal in the tournament. The 15-year-old prevailed over Brazil's Bianca Reis to top the women's 57kg category. PTI

Giants beat Quick Guns
PUNE
All-rounder Jaggannath Das produced a good show to as Gujarat Giants scored a 50-44 win over Chennai Quick Guns in the Ultimate Kho Kho on Friday. Mumbai Khiladis beat Telugu Yoddhas 54-46. PTI

LIVE TELECAST

England vs South Africa: 2nd Test, day 3, Sony Six (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 3.30 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, SS Select 2, 5, 7.30 & 10 p.m.
Durand Cup: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 6 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 7 & 10 p.m.
Asia Cup T20: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Formula 1: Belgian GP (Qualifying): SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Ultimate Kho Kho: Sony Ten 1 & 3 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 7.30 & 8.45 p.m.
La Liga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 9, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)
Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 10 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Sunday)

Satwik-Chirag ensure India's first men's doubles medal

Zhao breaks Indian hearts by ending Prannoy's brilliant run in the quarterfinals

BWF WORLDS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
TOKYO

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty ensured India's first men's doubles medal at the World Championships, but H.S. Prannoy's impressive run ended in the quarterfinals here on Friday.

Satwik and Chirag, the World No. 7 combination, which had claimed the Commonwealth Games gold medal earlier this month, stunned local favourites and defending champions Takuro Hoki and Yugo Kobayashi 24-22, 15-21, 21-14 in an hour and 15 minutes.

This will be India's 13th overall and second World Championships doubles medal – after G. Jwala and Ashwini Ponnappa claimed a bronze in 2011. P.V. Sindhu five (including gold in 2019), Saina Nehwal (silver and bronze), K. Srikanth (silver), Lakshya Sen (bronze), B. Sai Praneeth (bronze) and Prakash Padukone (bronze) were the other medallists.

It could have been double delight, but China's Zhao Jun Peng broke Indian hearts with a 19-21, 21-6, 21-18 win over former World No. 8 Prannoy, who went down on one knee with his head hanging in disappointment after the gut-wrenching loss.

Satwik and Chirag will now face the sixth-seeded Malaysian pair of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in the semifinals.

See-saw battle

Satwik and Chirag dominated proceedings early on, but the Japanese were in no mood to surrender meekly. The Indians fought tooth and nail for the opening game. Takuro and Yugo made a strong comeback in the second game.

Yugo produced some sensational shots, including a powerful smash and a cross-court return, to keep the Japanese duo's chances alive.

In the decider, the Indians grabbed seven match-points and, despite being a tad nervous, Satwik forced Yugo's return into the net on the first.

Prannoy had raised hopes of a medal after he outwitted two-time former champion Kento Momota and compatriot and last year's bronze medallist Lakshya Sen. But it wasn't to be. **Quarterfinal results: Men:** Zhao Jun Peng (Chn) bt H.S. Prannoy 19-21, 21-6, 21-18.

Doubles: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty bt Takuro Hoki & Yugo Kobayashi (Jpn) 24-22, 15-21, 21-14; Mohammad Ahsan & Hendra Setiawan (Ina) bt M.R. Arjun & Dhruv Kapila 21-8, 21-14.

Joy unbound: Satwik and Chirag give vent to their emotions after the landmark win. •GETTY IMAGES

Audi to finally foray into F-1

SPORTS BUREAU

After years of exploring a possible entry into Formula One, Audi, the German automobile company, on Friday announced that it will be entering the sport in 2026.

Markus Duesmann, CEO of Audi in a press conference at Spa Francorchamps said, "Audi has officially registered as a Formula One Power Unit manufacturer and will start racing from 2026."

Recently the FIA – the sport's governing body – announced new engine regulations that will come into force in 2026 and Duesmann cited it as the reason for Audi to enter the sport.

The new rules emphasised more electrical power and the use of sustainable fuels, which are important for manufacturers in terms of technology transfer to their road cars.

"Motorsport is an integral part of the Audi DNA," added Duesmann. "Formula 1 is both a global stage for our brand and a demanding development laboratory. The combination of high performance and competition is always a driver for innovation and technology transfer in our industry.

"With the new regulations, now is exactly the right time for us to get started. Because Formula 1 and Audi are both pursuing clear sustainability goals," he added.

Champion: Gulbarga Mystics, which won the Maharaja Trophy on Friday. •SUDHAKARA JAIN

Gulbarga Mystics triumphs in style

Excellent batting hands it inaugural title at Blasters' expense

MAHARAJA TROPHY

N. SUDARSHAN
BENGALURU

Gulbarga Mystics rode on a superlative batting performance to beat Bengaluru Blasters by 11 runs and win the inaugural Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 tournament, at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Friday.

Chasing a mammoth 221, Blasters lost batting mainstay and captain Mayank Agarwal in the third over for just 16, caught at long-on off tweaker Ritesh Bhatkal.

Collapse

A collapse ensued as the Bengaluru side lost four top-order batters within the PowerPlay. But Blasters were back in the game, courtesy a blistering 98-run sixth-wicket partnership between opener L.R. Chethan (91, 40b, 6x4, 8x6) and Kranthi Kumar (47, 21b, 3x4, 3x6) off just 41 balls.

However, with 60 needed off 31 balls, Manoj Bhandage sneaked one through Chethan's defence and then dismissed Kranthi to wrest control of the match again.

Ronit More wielded the long handle, scoring 22 off 14 balls. But Abhilash Shetty defended 21 off the last over to give Mystics the win.

After being to put into bat, Devdutt Padikkal came good again for Mystics, top-scoring with an unbeaten 56 (42b, 5x4, 1x6). While he anchored the innings, his fellow batters caned Blasters' bowling.

The duo of Jeswath Acharya (39, 17b, 3x4, 3x6) and Rohan Patil (38, 21b, 6x4, 1x6) put on 60 runs for the opening wicket off just 32 balls. Wicketkeeper-batter K.L. Shrijith (38, 25b, 2x4, 2x6) and skipper Manish Pandey (41 n.o., 17b, 2x4, 4x6) built on the foundation to take Mystics to a mammoth score.

Pandey was especially severe on More (4-0-61-0), hitting the speedster for a hat-trick of sixes in the 19th over to bring up the 200. The last four overs brought 60 runs, which eventually proved costly.

Earlier in the afternoon, the second exhibition match between the women's teams of Bengaluru Blasters and Hubli Tigers was called off after 10 overs of play because of rain.

The scores: Gulbarga Mystics 220/3 in 20 overs (Jeswath Acharya 39, Rohan Patil 38, Devdutt Padikkal 56 n.o., K.L. Shrijith 38, Manish Pandey 41 n.o.) bt Bengaluru Blasters 209 in 20 overs (Chethan 91, Kranthi Kumar 47, Manoj Bhandage 3/32).
MoM: Pandey.
MoS: Rohan Patil.

Ashwa Magadheera wins main event

MYSURU: S. Narredu-trained Ashwa Magadheera (Suraj up) won the Srikantadatta Narasimharaajawadiyar Memorial Million, the chief event of the races held here on Friday (Aug. 26). The winner is owned by Mr. Ravinder Pal Singh Chauhan.

1. TALAKADU PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25: **AIRVELOCITY** (Nazerul) 1, News Maker (B. Darshan) 2, Highland Park (Angad) 3 and Miss China (A. Imran) 4. 3/4, 3/4 and 2. 1m, 30.22s. ₹129 (w), 39, 22 and 16 (p), SHP: 84, THP: 57, FP: 3,175, Q: 789, Trinella: 6,977 and 3,364. Favourite: Bhrigu. Owner: Mr. Vijay Kumar P. Trainer: Sajid Qureshi.

2. FULL SPEED PLATE (DIV. II), (1,100m), rated 20 to 45: **ROYAL CROWN** (N.B. Kuldeep) 1, Oriental Lily (J.H. Arul) 2, Supreme Angel (Nazerul) 3 and Bonito (M. Prabhakaran) 4. Not run: Ewandor. 2, 1/2 and 4-1/2. 1m, 10.29s. ₹65 (w), 28, 16 and 12 (p), SHP: 42, THP: 38, FP: 323, Q: 350, Trinella: 2,402 and 637. Favourite: Supreme Angel. Owner: Vijaya Empire Farm Pvt Ltd. Trainer: P.C. Tejaswi.

3. RANGA FAMILY TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over: **TREMENDOUS** (B. Darshan) 1, Notoriety (Sai Kiran) 2, Gintoki (Angad) 3 and White River (Afsar Khan) 4. 1-3/4, 2-1/4 and 3/4. 1m, 28.25s. ₹61 (w), 16, 19 and 16 (p), SHP: 46, THP: 38, FP: 270, Q: 96, Trinella: 798 and 362. Favourite: D. Brother. Owners: Mrs. Neetu Kamath & Mr. P.M. Nanaiah. Trainer: Pratap Kamath.

4. SRIKANTADATTA NARASIMHARAJAWADIYAR MEMORIAL MILLION (1,400m), 3-y-o, (Terms): **ASHWA MAGADHEERA** (Suraj) 1, O Hansini (Akshay K) 2, Still I Rise (Srinath) 3 and Last Wish (A. Imran) 4. Not run: Ravishing Form and Indian Patriot. Snk, 1-1/4 and 4-3/4. 1m, 26.46s. ₹38 (w), 12 and 15 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 36, FP: 93, Q: 62, Trinella: 158 and 52. Favourite: Last Wish. Owner: Mr. Ravinder Pal Singh Chauhan. Trainer S. Narredu.

5. FULL SPEED PLATE (DIV. I), (1,100m), rated 20 to 45: **VIJAYA FALCON** (Sai Kiran) 1, Smart Cadillac (B. Darshan) 2, Flying Falcon (Salman K) 3 and Country's Delight (Antony) 4. 1-3/4, 4-1/2 and 4-1/4. 1m, 08.20s. ₹20 (w), 11, 10 and 21 (p), SHP: 38, THP: 47, FP: 70, Q: 45, Trinella: 354 and 178, Exacta: 1,885 and 404. Favourite: Vijaya Falcon. Owners: Mr. Aravind Raj M & Vijaya Empire Farm Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Joseph B.

6. REGENCY GOLD PLATE (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over: **D FIRE** (Shreyas S) 1, My One And Only (J. Paswan) 2, Spiritual Force (Kiran N) 3 and Cherokee Moon (Vijay K) 4. 1-3/4, 3/4 and 2-1/2. 1m, 15.44s. ₹22 (w), 11, 65 and 25 (p), SHP: 362, THP: 52, FP: 1,024, Q: 823, Trinella: 16,022 and 1,616, Exacta: 11,325 (carried over). Favourite: D Fire. Owner: Mr. Dayananda B M. Trainer: C.D. Monnappa.

Jackpot: ₹10,598 (18 tkts.); Runner-up: 2,044 (40 tkts.); Treble (i): 7,408 (carried over); (ii): 281 (eight tkts.).

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Easy win for Kemp FC

Kemp FC defeated Girls FC 3-1 in the Karnataka Women's League football, here on Friday.

The results: Kemp FC 3 (Lalrinmuani 23, Sunita Sarkar 80, Rafiya 85) bt Modern Girls FC 1 (Laxmi Priya Lenka 64).

Emeka scores the winner

Prince Emeka scored an 83rd minute winner as Kickstart FC edged FC Deccan 1-0 in the BDFA Super Division Football League, here on Friday.

The results: Kickstart FC 1 (Prince Will Emeka Olaniche 83) bt FC Deccan 0; Bangalore Dream United FC 1 (Elvis Nongtdu 16) drew with Kodagu FC 1 (P. Deepak Raj 32).

Titles for Raghu Vijay and Sreeniti

Raghu Vijay Sumukh and Sreeniti Chowdhury emerged the boys' and girls' singles champions respectively at the Topspin AITA CS7 U-14 tennis tournament.

Raghu Vijay and Sreeniti. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The results (finals): Singles: Boys: Raghu Vijay Sumukh bt Likith S.Gowda 6-3, 6-4; Girls: Sreeniti Chowdhury bt Ahida Singh 6-3, 6-4. **Doubles:** Rhunman Mahesh & Ranveer Singh Pannu bt Ayan & Mohit Reddy 3-6, 6-3, [10-7].

Samarth, Deshna triumph

Samarth Kurdikeri and Deshna M. Vanshika emerged the men's and women's singles champions respectively at the Karnataka State-ranking table tennis tournament organised by Belagavi District Table Tennis Association.

The results (finals): Men: Samarth Kurdikeri bt Shreyal Telang 11-9, 6-11, 11-7, 11-8, 8-11, 11-6; **Women:** Deshna M.Vanshika bt Trupti Purohit 11-6, 9-11, 11-8, 11-3, 11-9.

Dylan, Shaina and Gautham do the double

Dylan P. Thokchom clinched the under-13 singles and doubles titles at the Yonex Sunrise Karnataka State-ranking badminton tournament. M. Shaina managed the same feat in under-13 girls, while Gautham S. Nair completed the double in under-11 boys' category.

The results (finals): Boys: U-13: Dylsan P. Thokchom bt Toshan Naik 21-17, 21-17; **U-11:** Gautham S.Nair bt Siddharth S. Nair 21-13, 21-6; **Girls: U-13:** M. Shaina bt Hithaishree Lokesh Rajaiah 21-19, 21-14; **U-11:** Adithi Sushanth bt Hamsa Muralidhara 21-16, 21-17.

Doubles: Boys: U-13: Karansh Naidu & Dylan P.Thokchom bt Shyam Bindiganavile & Sambhram S.Koliwad 21-15, 21-18; **U-11:** Gautham & Siddharth S. Nair bt Vishal D.Anand & B. Vishal Uthappa 21-13, 21-9.

Girls: U-13: M. Shaina & Aikya Shetty bt Nidhi Atmaram & Disha Ravi Bhat 21-17, 21-14; **U-11:** Hamsa Muralidhara & Hansika Rakesh bt A.P. Neeharika & Adithi Sushanth 21-18, 21-12.

Vikrant sets new record

M. Vikrant set a new meet record in men's javelin with a heave of 73.80m on the opening day of the Karnataka State Athletics Championship, at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium here on Friday.

The other record came in women's 10,000m where K.M. Laxmi came home with a timing of 35:28.0s.

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